



CTE DIRECTIONS

Career and Technical Education (CTE) News and Information

January 2021

Career and Technical Education provides all students access to high-quality, rigorous career-focused programs that result in attainment of credentials with labor market value.

Happy New Year!

May the year 2021 be the beginning of increased hope and optimism as the third decade of the 21st century continues. Here at Utah CTE, we look forward to the months ahead as we continue to celebrate the five Utah nominees as U.S. Presidential Scholars in CTE, celebrate and advocate for CTE during CTE Month in February, award CTE Scholarships and Tuition Awards to more than 100 students, recognize CTSO members as they participate and compete in leadership conferences, and congratulate the Class of 2021 as they advance to postsecondary education and training. Share your school events and CTE success stories with us via UtahCTE@schools.utah.gov.

New State CTE Education Specialists

Here at the office of the Utah State Board of Education, Utah CTE welcomes two new education specialists to our team. We give a warm welcome to Brent Cox and Racheal Routt and look forward to their contributions to Career and Technical Education in Utah.

Brent Cox



Brent Cox has been teaching for 26 years and most recently taught business and computer technology at Herriman High School. Here is Brent in his own words.

"Five children rule my world, 22 years old down to 13 make each day a blended joy of taxi driving, counseling, refereeing, hugging, and kissing. Over 1,000 haircuts old, I have found that a few of the simple things in life make small pieces of memories, each day crafted by gentle conversations trapped in a car or stuck in the waiting room of a dance studio. I've loved teaching for 26 years, surviving the first year at Bingham High with pure optimism and wishing five-hour energy drinks had already been invented! That first Yearbook my students created was one of those diamonds in the rough and reflected my personal level of lack-of-

expertise. I've always believed in the power of daily work and advising my students how to conquer daily tasks has brought me my greatest sense of accomplishment.

"I grew up in Mesa, Arizona. I learned to love not melting in April after I moved to Utah. Most recently I taught with the incredible Business Team at Herriman High School. I still love creating projects with my students, crafting yearbooks, advertisements, videos, and more. My wife always asks at the end of each school year, 'Do you still love it?' Each year I answer with a smile, 'Oh yeah. Teaching is fantastic!'

"I'm very excited to join the State CTE Team and to see how other amazing teachers have succeeded over the years in developing programs that feed the souls of Utah students. I'm also excited to see who else loves Diet Dr. Pepper."

Racheal Routt

Racheal Routt received a BS in business and marketing secondary education from Utah Valley University and then went on to get her MBA in 2019. She became an educator after working for 15 years in sales, marketing, and event planning. In 2018, she served as the business president for the Utah ACTE and began working on the Utah business and marketing advisory board. Over the last year she has helped to create and manage the Utah Business and Marketing Canvas resources. In 2020, she received the Carl D. Perkins Service Award for her creation of a student food pantry at Mountain View High School.

Racheal has taught a variety of CTE courses from College and Career Awareness to Financial Literacy to Business Management. Racheal has learned to embrace the mantra, “The only constant is change.” She loves learning and taking on new challenges. She plans to remain teachable while she learns the needs of teachers, schools, and industries throughout Utah.

Racheal is from Orem, Utah and is the 4th of 8 children. She has been married for 24 years and is the mother of 2 boys and 2 girls. On her days off she can be found either reading, sewing, or watching “The Office” TV series.



Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO)



Career and Technical Student Organizations bring relevance to the classroom and prepare students to be college and career ready. In this video <https://youtu.be/83h5SmEayNA> CTSO members describe their CTSO in one word:

Challenging. Growth. Leadership. Opportunity. Teamwork.

Students who are interested in joining a CTSO should contact the CTSO advisor in their school.

Utah CTSOs = [DECA](#), [Educators Rising](#), [FBLA](#), [FCCLA](#), [FFA](#), [HOSA](#), [SkillsUSA](#), and [TSA](#)

Congratulations to Maren Hansen

Congratulations to our own Maren Hansen, Utah CTE education specialist at the Utah State Board of Education, who received the Utah ACTE Health Science Division Administrator of the Year 2020 award for her contributions toward innovative, unique, and effective CTE programs.

We also congratulate all Utah ACTE award winners.



Calendar:

January 6: [Utah State Board of Education](#) Meeting – 250 East 500 South – Salt Lake City, UT

January 14: [Utah State Charter School Board](#) Meeting – 250 East 500 South – Salt Lake City, UT
[Utah CTE Calendar](#) | [ACTE Calendar](#) | [Utah School Calendars](#)

Utah CTE classes are open to all qualified students without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age.

Utah State Board of Education | Career and Technical Education
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