



Arizona State of the State Report Stephen Weltsch, President

Officers / State Leaders / Consultants / Board

- President: Stephen Weltsch, President-Elect: Dr. John Mulcahy, Past-President: Doris Wojtulewicz, Vice-President Lisa Doll, Treasurer: Amanda Shively, Secretary: Christine Nelson.
- Consultants: Pam Ferguson, Shelly York, Mary Anne Berens, Tony York.
- Board of Directors shall be representative of: Arizona Department of Education State Director for Career and Technical Education, Arizona Community College Career and Technical Education, Presiding Officer from each affiliate organization (AATA, ABEA, ACOVA, AME, ATIEA, FACS Ed, AZHCEA), Legislative, Joint Technical District, At-Large Members as appointed by the President, Business / Industry Liaison, Arizona University Career Technical Education, and Workforce Development. These representatives on the Board shall be appointed by the President of the Association with the consent of the Executive Committee.

Member Recruitment and Retention

- ACTEAZ gives complimentary ACTEAZ memberships to those attending the ACTE Summer Conference as an added value incentive for the conference.
- We also now have free membership to anyone statewide who is a professional in CTE. They can go to the website and register.
- We are focusing on retired members to continue their membership to remain active and informed on CTE issues.
- We are intensifying our efforts to increase and improve the membership experience through our website. This also includes the membership features on the website for registration etc.
- Members receive e-blasts to keep them abreast of association information and state/national CTE issues. ACTEAZ has the capacity to send e-blasts to all members.
- This year a main thrust of our Strategic Plan is to increase State Outreach for the State Association and Affiliates. Our Past- President has literally been visiting with members from all corners of the state.
- We feature members on our website and work to make sure their great work is recognized so their Best Practices can be used by other members.
- ACTEAZ currently has over 1400 members.
- New Memberships brochures have been developed, printed and used extensively.
- ACTEAZ continues to send out Job Listings of CTE Openings in our State for School Districts. This is our seventh year for providing this service.
- ACTEAZ is now on Twitter, Facebook, etc.
- Arizona has been awarded grants the last two years for the development of membership brochures for state and national membership.

Advocacy and State Issues

- ACTEAZ works closely with National ACTE on their Advocacy Efforts and we greatly appreciate the leadership that they share with the states.
- Governor Brewer signed the CTE Month Proclamation. State Legislators were visited by ACTEAZ members, teachers and administrators as their schedules permitted. CTSO students also invited State Legislators to visit their school district programs.
- ACTEAZ had 25 members at National Policy Seminar 2014 in Washington, D.C. Delegates met with Senators, Representative or Educational Aides from all eleven Arizona Congressional offices.
- CTE Month Activities were posted on the website. Invitation Letters and To-Do Lists etc. were all posted to assist members in completing these activities with their busy schedules.
- Arizona J-TEDs are extremely proactive in CTE Legislative Issues in our State, making a significant difference in the positive outcomes achieved.

- ACTEAZ continues to register Tina Norton as the Designated Lobbyist of Record. Due to many efforts by Tina Norton and our association members, as well as other leaders in our State, Arizona has helped change the percentage of Funding for JTEDS in our state.
- Our ACTEAZ Circle of Distinction Members and our Business / Industry Partners contacted our State of Arizona Legislature about their request to change the allocation to our State JTED's and we did get half of the money reinstated to further help the JTEDs support students this coming school year. The Governor has signed the budget.
- Provided information to the State Board and other Stakeholders on Embedded Academic Credit for CTE classes.
- Due to many peoples' efforts, we now have CTE Courses counting as Math and Science Credit for Graduation which was passed by our Arizona State Board of Education.

Marketing

- ACTEAZ works closely with ACTE National and appreciates their efforts for our State Conference by attending and presenting.
- Arizona has a strong partnership with the Arizona Department of Education and this partnership provides great leadership for our state. Association Members were on the committee to develop a CTE Strategic Plan for Arizona.
- ACTEAZ has renewed their ABEC (Arizona Business and Education Coalition) membership and is active.
- ACTEAZ has renewed their WESTMARC (West Valley Economic Development Association) membership. ACTEAZ is also a member of the Education Committee.
- ACTEAZ is a member of AZSAE (Arizona Society of Association Executives).
- ACTEAZ is a member of Meeting Planners International.
- ACTEAZ is a member of the Arizona Technology Council with five representatives.
- ACTEAZ presented at the Arizona School Boards Association this year on CTE Initiatives at their Annual Conference.
- ACTEAZ has joined the Arizona Chamber of Commerce and attends their activities.
- ACTEAZ is on the Arizona Chamber of Commerce Manufacturing Committee.
- ACTEAZ is on the Quality Commission of Strong Business Partners in our state.
- ACTEAZ serves on the Arizona Stakeholders Group with the Teachers, Counselors and Administrators.
- Career and Technical Affiliates have extremely strong student organizations in Career and Technical Education and these students receive numerous awards on the state and national levels. CTSO officers have participated in our Summer Conference and ACTEAZ Legislative Information Activities.
- ACTEAZ continues strong partnerships with Loews Ventana Canyon Resort and Westin La Paloma Resort, the Metropolitan Tucson Convention Bureau, and the Prescott Resort for our professional development conferences.
- ACTEAZ participates in the Arizona SCI-TECH Festival, now in its' third year to show best practices of CTE's Role in STEM.
- ACTEAZ disseminates much information and showcases our Arizona CTSO's. ACTEAZ Representatives also attend their conferences.
- Statewide Community Colleges work closely with Career Technical Education Teachers to provide Dual Credit for their students. This is a major partnership.
- ACTEAZ continues to increase business contacts and is in the talking stage with the Arizona Mining Industry.

Committees

- Charles Gallagher from Arizona continues to serve as the Region V Vice-President which is comprised of 16 states and territories.
- Mary Anne Berens finished her terms as a member of both the Region V and National Audit Committees.
- Shelly York is beginning her term on the Region V Audit Committee.
- Mary Anne Berens serves as the Region V Fellowship Coordinator.
- Lou Hart is also a Region V Fellow having graduated from the Arizona Program.
- ACTEAZ has members serving on multiple Region V Committees.
- ACTEAZ Executive Director, Pam Ferguson, has completed her term as National Past-President for NEDA (National Executive Director Association). She continues to be active in NEDA.
- Shelly York, Assistant Executive Director was elected to serve as the NEDA Secretary for the next two years.
- John Mulcahy chaired the Leadership Continuum Committee that is developing strategies to build the pipeline of leadership at all levels within CTE.
- Premier Program Series is the name of the New Teacher Course Series. There are seven courses and two were offered at the 2013 Summer Conference, one at our Mid-Winter Conference, and five more will be offered at the 2014 Summer Conference. John Mulcahy, Curt Bertelsen, Mary Anne Berens, Stephen Weltsch worked with ADE and all courses have been approved and will earn certificates by ADE and Superintendent Huppenthal, in lieu of college credit. This fall we began creating a faculty pool to offer these courses around the state. Transcribed university credit is an extra option and students can work directly with the universities for that option.

- Our ACTEAZ Sponsorships are strong and continue to make it possible to reach goals for the Association and members.
- This year we have increased our opportunities for Sponsorships at the Summer Conference and we are monitoring how that new program will work. This was also a concentrated effort in our Strategic Plan.
- ACTEAZ Board members continue to be actively involved in their respective committees to support the organization.
- ACTEAZ participates in the Monthly Conference Calls for State Executive Directors and shares information on specific topics during the conference calls when asked to be on the agenda.

State Meetings and In-service

- ACTEAZ has six Board of Directors' meetings a year.
- The Fall Board Leadership Retreat is combined with the Fall Board Meeting for a full day of training.
- We have a Mid-Winter Leadership Conference in partnership with ACOVA and this was our 14th anniversary of that event.
- Our Annual Summer Conference is co-hosted with Arizona Department of Education. This is our 39th Anniversary Year for this ACTE Conference. We will have over 1300 in attendance.
- The Fellowship Program is in its fourteenth year and there is ongoing Fellows Leadership Training during the year. Since 2000 there have been 84 Fellows who are graduates of this ACTEAZ Leadership Program and there are currently 27 fellows at various stages within the program. Many of our leaders in ACTEAZ have been ACTEAZ Fellows. We are working very hard to continue to build our own leaders and increasing different levels in the Fellowship Program to meet the needs of various stages for leadership development.
- ACTEAZ CTE 101 - Workshop Sessions are offered for School District Superintendents, School Administrators, Legislators and School Board Members at the Summer Conference.

New and Innovative Ideas

- ACTEAZ has a Professional Development Coordinator who oversees the Courses in the Premier Program Series. These courses are all ADE Certified for credit toward Standard Certification, and are all taught by highly engaging instructors who model best practices in the classroom. Teachers leave each course with strategies to carry them through their teaching career. They will also leave each course with activities they can use in their classroom the next day.
- Bringing It All Together-The Arizona CTE Leadership Continuum purpose is to acquaint statewide members with a range of professional development opportunities available to CTE Educators. There are opportunities for teachers, CTE administrators, prospective CTE administrators that are part of a broad model for leadership development.
- Circle of Distinction- Community Captains of Industry Leaders, who believe in the value and importance of Career and Technical Education. Our vision for this level of distinction is to annually bring this group together to honor new inductees and to address a narrow range of issues affecting CTE and ask for their assistance in supporting these issues. This is our seventh year.
- HOOP Group- ACTEAZ has representation on the Arizona Superintendent of Public Instruction CTE Leaders Group.
- ACTEAZ continues to work on Teacher Certification and having discussions with the ACTEAZ Board of Directors, Arizona Department of Education Representatives, the Universities, Community Colleges and others.

Awards / Recognitions / Student Scholarships

- Quality Association Award. This is the twelfth year ACTEAZ has earned the ACTE Quality Association Award.
- ACTEAZ Awards Program honors fifteen award recipients. Teachers, administrators, CTE programs, affiliates, business representatives and policy makers are honored at the Summer Conference.
- We also have a new recognition the last four years called the ACTEAZ Excellence in Leadership Recognition.
- This year we had four nominees for Region V Awards. Clyde McBride won Region V Teacher of the Year and Amanda Shively won Region V Administrator of the Year.
- Speranta Klees served as the Region V Awards Chair.
- Arizona also awarded its state Innovative Program Award to Dennis Esparza from Mesa Public Schools.
- The ACTEAZ Student Scholarships 2014 total was \$12,000. ACOVA also partners in these scholarship efforts.
- The Presidents' Circle of Distinction are influential community leaders who believe in the value and importance of Career and Technical Education. ACTEAZ had its inaugural year in summer 2008 and this is our seventh year for this special President Circle of Distinction Designation.
- Stacy Hatton from Santa Cruz Unified School District won the *ACTE Region V New Teacher of the Year Award* and competed in Las Vegas at the National Conference.

**Respectfully submitted by President Stephen Weltsch
on behalf of the ACTEAZ Executive Committee and the ACTEAZ Board of Directors**