



April, 30 2015

**Dear Alaska CTE Professionals,**

This is our first CTE update in an effort to provide information, resources and highlights of upcoming CTE opportunities in the state of Alaska. As this update grows in scope and nature, the goal is for our CTE partners to provide input and feedback on activities that are currently occurring in the field as well as to expand on ideas being discussed across the state to advance CTE opportunities for our students, staff and partners. This will also serve as an informational tool for important CTE events and activities that are occurring. The entire intent of this update is to provide the information-sharing or professional learning network that was requested by our partners from the March 2015 CTE Work Session. Please consider providing EED with examples and stories of your success or topics to address in future additions of the CTE update.

**In This Issue**

- [CTE Around the State](#)
- [Kenai NCCER Credit](#)
- [Summer PD through UAA](#)
- [UAF CRCD Online Health Pathways PD May 1-2](#)
- [FEA Wraps Up On A High Note](#)
- [Administrator's Corner](#)
- [EED Events/Deadlines](#)

**CTE Around the State**

**KENAI GIVES STUDENTS CREDIT FOR NCCER CORE CURRICULUM COMPLETION**



Students attending the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District can now receive a practical arts credit for completing the NCCER Core Curriculum. In the past, students were exposed to the NCCER Core curriculum in a welding or construction class, but many were not able to complete the entire NCCER core in one class period. Now, if students take additional welding/construction classes and complete all of the modules (and receive their Blue Card), they can receive the NCCER credit. For more information, please contact Dan Bohrsen

**EED Events/Deadlines**

- Due June 15th: [Perkins Secondary FY15 Report/FY16 Annual Amendment](#)
- Due June 15th: [Perkins Secondary All-In-One Student Level Data](#)
- Due June 15th: [Perkins](#)

at [bohrnsen@kpbsd.org](mailto:bohrnsen@kpbsd.org) or by phone at (907) 283-2166.

[Secondary Budget  
for FY16 Application](#)

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## **SUMMER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH UAA**

As the school year winds down and you make your summer plans, don't forget to take advantage of these professional development opportunities:



- **Applied Industry Experiences** (late May through Aug. 8th) Core elements of all three sections include on-site industry work, research on career pathways within the industry, activity logs, and an action plan for integrating the experience into your teaching. 1 credit - \$139; 2 credits - \$244; 3 credits - \$399. Registration deadline: varies depending on section; call for details. Sponsored by UAA Community & Technical College.
- **Teacher Industry Externship (TIE)** (late May through Aug. 8th, 3 credits). This year's TIE partners are the Alaska Process Industry Career Consortium (APICC) and Associated General Contractors (AGC). Please apply through the APICC website at [http://www.apicc.org/servlet/content/teacher\\_industry\\_externships.html](http://www.apicc.org/servlet/content/teacher_industry_externships.html). Sponsored by APICC, AGC, and their member companies. Application deadline: ASAP!

For the most up-to-date information, contact Kelly Donnelly at (907) 786-6364, email [kadonnelly@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:kadonnelly@uaa.alaska.edu) or visit <http://www.alaskacte.org/>

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## **UAF CRCD ONLINE HEALTH PATHWAYS PROJECT IS THRIVING, WITH PD SESSION PLANNED FOR MAY 1-2**



The Online Health Pathways Courses project, supported by the Carl Perkins grant via UAF CRCD, is entering its third year. One of the main goals of this project is to develop a sustainable sequence of online asynchronous health courses to

be delivered to rural Alaskan students. One thing they have learned, UAF CRCD faculty Natalia Zinger reports, is that recruiting, training and supporting the professional growth of instructors has been critical to their success. For that reason, they have developed an "internal instructors" professional development system for training and support. Before the courses were developed, each instructor went through online orientation and a "crash course" in methods, pedagogy and technology for successful course delivery and communicating with students. Today, they continue to support these teachers, and help them maintain and manage the courses at a high level of quality. Two years ago, they held the first f2f PD workshop/seminar in Fairbanks, which was tremendously successful and had a great impact on teaching and learning for the project.

On May 1st-2nd, another PD workshop/seminar is being held, attuned to instructors' increased experience and professional growth, and all participants and trainers are coming with the anticipation of intensive, productive work. Instructors will meet with the Executive Dean of College of Rural and Community Development, Peter Pinney. The introductory round table discussion will include FERPA and other regulations for CTE and dual credit teaching. Two other sessions will comprise individual work with specialized training delivered by the UAF eLearning web designers, and with UAF OIT staff regarding the training in latest version of the Blackboard. Both tech-oriented training sessions will also include a broad review of up-to-date tools and methods in online teaching and learning.

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### **FEA WRAPS UP ON A HIGH NOTE**

Jan Littlebear of the Alaska Statewide Mentor Project was pleased to share that Future Educators of Alaska (FEA) just completed a successful year of online dual credit education classes, leadership training, and career awareness at UAS in Juneau. Approximately 30 students and advisors from across the state participated in the Career & Technical Student Organization in Anchorage in mid-March where leadership skills were demonstrated as students shared lessons for teaching younger students, creating original books, and public speaking. Close to 60 FEA students then participated in online coursework preparing them for college and careers in education, with a half a dozen students now ready to take the ParaPro Praxis in order to be a certified paraprofessional in their villages. And, finally, the students who received a UAS campus tour, and hands-on science lessons, alongside resume



building and mock interviews walked away from that experience saying it was the highlight of their year. They were excited to be returning to their villages and looking forward to attending college somewhere in Alaska. According to Jan, it was a great year! Congratulations to FEA!

### Administrator's Corner - Saving the best for last!



As the school year comes to a close, thoughts for Career and Technical Education for the state of Alaska turn to next year. The Spring Work Session held in early March in Anchorage was deemed successful by attendees, and EED would like to build on the momentum and

collaboration from this event. Discussion of exemplar programs and courses has started with great input and ideas from our district partners. The discussions of setting a "level of expectation" for students to progress in a given pathway were very insightful and gave EED feedback on the activities and actions our partners are taking to raise the bar for CTE in the state. The regional discussions addressed critical issues such as logistics of delivery, best practices and partner engagement are a concern of many partners. The dialogue has started to address these concerns in a more collaborative approach regional needs with a group effort to support the CTE efforts across the entire state. We feel that valuable conversations are taking place and want to approach these issues as building blocks in a group effort to support CTE in your regions and communities. EED is looking to offer leadership and support with best practices and resources to provide quality instruction and training to individuals in the classroom and field.

With this in mind, EED is looking to serve our partners in these endeavors by providing professional development activities and technical assistance in areas of high need and demand. EED anticipates that 2015-2016 academic year is going to be a year of "collaboration and advancement" in CTE across the state. With the impending Perkins reauthorization and the Workforce Investment Opportunities Act (WIOA) going into effect, priority industries and pathways will become a main focus in delivering CTE options to our participants. EED, along with our partners in the Division of Labor and Workforce Development and University of Alaska System, will continue to work together to offer support to our districts for our students to seek opportunities upon graduation to pursue their career goals. My team members and I look forward to continued service and support to our partners to meet their needs and goals for the upcoming academic year and beyond.

Sincerely,

Curtis Clough  
Alaska CTE Administrator  
Department of Education & Early Development

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