



# Career Technical Educators of Idaho Newsletter

## SPRING 2024

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



### Hello Everyone!

The school year is coming close to an end. Every year seems to go faster!

Our Legislature has passed some bills and as of this moment, still working on others that affect our CTE programs for years to come. Please share your successes with your elected officials and with us, the CTEI Board. These officials make decisions on our students' success.

We hope to see you at the IDCTE CONNECT July 31-Aug. 2. If you have ideas or suggestions please reach out to any one you know on the CTEI Board.

<https://ctei.wildapricot.org/board>

As the end of year approaches, I hope you know each one of you is valued. Career and Technical Education is successful because of what you do in your classrooms! Thank you for being a great CTE advocate keep growing as a part of CTEI. Please enjoy your summer!

Ben Hamlett

CTEI President

"Please let us know if there are any ideas or issues you would like us to address."

-Ben



# LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

Lex Godfrey, CTEI Board Legislative Committee Chairman

Greetings from the CTEI Legislative Committee. Our committee has been active and involved in advocating for Career and Technical Education and educators this legislative session.

CTEI's State Policy Seminar was conducted February 27-29.

On Thursday, seminar participants experienced the State School Board meeting, meeting with CSI Provost - Todd Schwarz (former ICTE director), dinner with leadership of House and Senate Education committees and co-chair of Joint Finance and Appropriations committee Representative Wendy Horman. During Friday, we attended House and Senate Education committee meetings, met with representatives from Legislative Services Office and Idaho School Board Association, the director of ICTE Dr. Clay Long, Superintendent of Education Debbie Critchfield, met with Governor Brad Little, and attended the Idaho CTE Foundation Legislative Reception.

This power packed seminar is instrumental in creating and maintaining valuable relationships with influential policymakers. In addition, this experience provides an opportunity to develop and empower advocates within our membership.

Our CTEI Legislative team has been involved in working with policymakers during this legislative session. We have been asked for our position as well as providing testimony and data regarding the impacts of potential legislation.

**HB 521:** This legislation provides the largest state investment in school facilities through three main avenues. First, it dedicates \$125 million in ongoing sales tax revenue to the new School Modernization Facilities Fund for bonding. Second, increases the funding to the School District Facility Fund in two ways (increases the sales tax revenue directed to the fund from 2.25% to 3.25%, redirects existing lottery dividends to the fund). This fund will help school districts with paying down school bonds, levies, and plant facility levies, with any remaining funds being used at the district level for additional school facility projects. Third, reduces income taxes from 5.8% to 5.695%, allowing Idahoans to have more money to better support local bonds and levies related to school facilities.

**LAUNCH:** On March 21st, the Idaho House of Representatives passed funding for the Idaho LAUNCH program, which now goes to the Senate. This is a key initiative of the Governor's 'Idaho First' plan last year, which offers graduating high school seniors up to \$8,000 in grants to enter an education or training program that aligns with an in-demand career. The widely popular program has received over 13,500 applications from Idaho high school seniors.

On March 22nd, JFAC proposed additional one-time funds for the Idaho Career Ready Students grant program.

The legislative committee has also offered input on HB 595 which aimed to modernize the educational funding formula with an Outcomes-Based component. This bill was held in Senate Education.



This is an election year. I encourage each of our members to be informed and vote. We enjoy great support from the vast majority of our elected officials and stakeholders. May we continue to be a valuable solution to Idaho's students, communities, and economy.

Lex Godfrey  
CTEI Legislative Representative

IDCTE's Connect Summer Conference 2024 is coming July 31 through Aug. 2, 2024, in Meridian, Idaho! After traveling across Idaho for the past two years, we're bringing everyone back together for three full days of updates, keynotes, professional development opportunities, and networking. It's Idaho's biggest gathering of CTE peers, programs, and industry partners.

Idaho's premier CTE professional development opportunity is your gateway to elevating your career and advancing the education field. Whether you're an educator, administrator, or a dedicated professional passionate about enhancing the educational landscape, this conference offers a dynamic platform to:

**Learn from experts:** Engage with leading experts and thought leaders in education through keynote presentations, workshops, and interactive sessions. Gain valuable insights into the latest trends, best practices, and innovations in the field.

**- Collaborate and network:** Connect with fellow educators and professionals from diverse backgrounds. Share ideas, forge partnerships, and build a robust network of like-minded individuals who are committed to educational excellence.

**- Professional growth:** Acquire new skills, techniques, and strategies that will empower you to excel in your role. The conference offers a comprehensive range of sessions tailored to your professional development needs.

**- Inspiration:** Reignite your passion for education and inspire your students. Discover fresh perspectives, innovative approaches, and creative solutions that will invigorate your teaching and leadership.



Our call for presentations and registration is now open! We cannot wait to see you there!

## CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATORS OF IDAHO PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

The primary purpose of this program is to provide support to CTEI members for the development of expertise in instruction, discipline, or scholarly activity. These grants will provide support to CTEI members through the individual divisions. Divisions that are in good standing with CTEI are eligible to apply for grants, which will in turn benefit the professional development of their members. <https://ctei.wildapricot.org/page-18301>

**Nominations are now open for the 2024 CTEI Teacher Excellence Awards. Categories include Teacher of the Year, New Teacher of the Year, Postsecondary Teacher of the Year, Administrator of the Year, Teacher Educator of the Year, Counseling and Career Development Professional, Lifetime Achievement and Carl Perkins Community Service. Please nominate for one or more of the categories. We will be selecting a recipient from each Region as well as our state winner.**

<https://idahocte.jotform.com/240605775055962>

