



Wayde Sick, Director  
Mark Wagner, Assistant Director

December, 2023

# Newsletter

## What is the Presidential CTE Scholars Award

-Kelly Pierce, Supervisor, Career Development and Career Advisors

The U.S. Presidential Scholars Program was established in 1964, by executive order of the President, to recognize and honor some of our nation's most distinguished graduating high school seniors. In 1979, the program was extended to recognize students who demonstrate exceptional talent in the visual, creative, and performing arts. In 2015, the program was again extended to recognize students who demonstrate ability and accomplishment in career and technical education fields. Each year, up to 161 students are named as Presidential Scholars, one of the nation's highest honors for high school students.

For the **CTE component** of the program, students who meet the following criteria are eligible if they:

- are or will be U.S. citizens or Legal Permanent U.S. Residents by the application deadline;
- graduate or receive a diploma between January and August of 2024, the current program year;
- demonstrate academic achievement in career and technical programs; and
- are nominated by their state's Chief State School Officer.

In North Dakota, nominations were collected in October and November. CTE staff review the nominations and submit the top five to the ND Department of Public Instruction, who then provides the names to the US Department of Education (USDOE).

The USDOE will mail letters of invitation to all students who meet the qualifying requirements during the week of January 18, 2024. USDOE will also email invitations to students for whom they have email addresses.

Everyone invited to apply, and then submits an application for consideration, will be mailed a letter notifying them of their status. Semifinalists and non-Semifinalists will be notified in mid-April 2024. Scholars and non-Scholars will be notified in May 2024.

The names of the 2024 Candidates will be posted after invitations are mailed in January 2024. The names of the Semifinalists will be posted in mid-April. The names of the 2024 U.S. Presidential Scholars will be posted in early May.

National Recognition Program is tentatively scheduled for June 2024. However, these dates are subject to change and will be solidified after U.S. Presidential Scholars are announced.

For more information, please visit the [US Presidential Scholars Program website](https://www.usdoe.gov/education/programs/presidentialscholars/).

## DATES OF INTEREST

### **December 4-7, 2023**

District FFA Convention

### **December 12, 2023**

FFA Leadership Development Event  
Bismarck

### **January 31, 2024**

Emerging Leadership Competition  
Valley City

### **February, 2024**

CTE Month

### **February 15-16, 2024**

High School Cyber Madness  
Tournament, BSC, Bismarck

### **February 21-22, 2024**

ND Collegiate DECA Conference  
Fargo

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# CTE Around the State

Part of the ChildCare program at [James Valley Career and Technology Center in Jamestown](#) includes the opportunity for High School students to work with kids through the on-site PlaySchool. They run the PlaySchool program three mornings a week for 8 weeks each semester. They start each day with Circle Time and focus on singing songs, listening to others, taking turns, and talking in front of others. The high school teachers work with Miss Olson to plan, prepare, and present lessons to the kids.



Mr. Alan Klitzke, Automotive Tech Instructor at [Lake Area Career & Technology Center](#), recently arranged for Automotive Tech 1 & 2 students to visit Lake Chevrolet in Devils Lake to tour their facility and interact with the service manager and lead technician. Lake Chevrolet also donated a used vehicle to be used for training purposes! Klitzke also arranged for a salesman to speak to the Auto Basics class about buying new and used cars.



All smiles in Mr. Stastny's class at [North Valley CTC in Grafton](#), as they unpacked 6 new welders that were purchased with funds from the Perkins V Innovation Grant. North Valley's ITV welding classes at Munich, Fordville, and Walhalla have grown, thus this new equipment will be put to good use!



Did you know that North Dakota has its own state flour mill? This year we received a grant for 100 lbs. of flour from the [North Dakota Mill & Elevator](#). We really



appreciate their support of our Career and Technical Education programs! [Bowman County FCS](#) students celebrated two state Cross Country Championships by baking up some favorite treats this week.

Last month, students from [Dickinson High School](#) and [Southwest Area CTE Academy](#) got a fantastic hands-on learning experience in Mr. Schmidt's Construction II class. They assisted Doug Dukart with helping construct fresh concrete walkways at the SWCTE building using hand trowels, bull floats, and concrete edgers.





# Leadership and Service Learning are Important Keys to Successful CTE Programs and Career and Technical Student Organizations

There are service-learning projects happening across the state by students in all of the CTE student organizations. One requirement of an approved program is to provide leadership opportunities including service learning. Many students participate in CTSO organized conferences in the fall and the spring of the year. This fall there were many programs at the local and state levels where members were involved in service-learning projects. Here are a few of the projects.



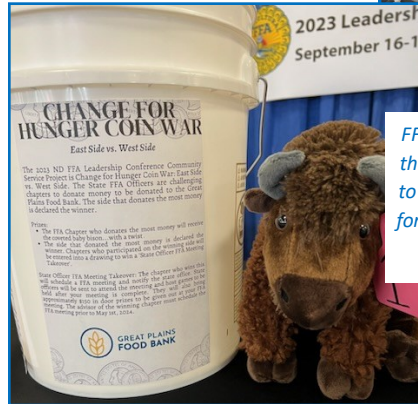
District 5 FCCLA members raised money for Juvenile Diabetes for ND and wrote cards to veterans.



DECA members at the Fall Leadership Conference tied 47 blankets and donated them to Sanford Health Childrens Cancer Center.



FFA members coordinated a Change for Hunger Coin War between the east and west sides of the state. Money collected was donated to the Great Plains Food Bank. Richland 44 received the baby bison for donating the most by a chapter and the east side collected more than the west side. A total of \$3,540.20 was collected.



Collegiate DECA Leadership Conference participants collected over 100 hats, mittens, scarves and coats for the Bridge the Gap Program in Fargo.

District III FCCLA members worked on tying blankets while at their district meeting in Grand Forks in November.



Members attending the District 1 FCCLA meeting were able to pay to wear jeans to the meeting. They donated the money to Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.



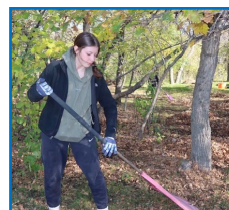
Hatton-Northwood FBLA collected over 1,000 items and monetary donations over \$700 for Helping Hands Food Pantry.



Fargo South DECA prepared lunches for the national program "Hashtag Lunch-bag" providing lunches for children.



LACTC Devils Lake members of SkillsUSA raked leaves for the elderly in Devils Lake and picked up trash in the ditches around the city.



We are looking for 2-3 sentence quotes from CTE students about how their class has prepared them for their future. Submit by email by December 12 to: [kreisena@nd.gov](mailto:kreisena@nd.gov).

## Bismarck Teacher Recognized by Student Nomination

BISMARCK, N.D. (KXNET)— A teacher in Bismarck got a nice surprise on Tuesday, November 7th, as some business owners and colleagues teamed up to present Luke Mellmer with [Active Life Chiropractic's](#) Teacher Spotlight award.

Mellmer is a tech ed teacher at the Bismarck Career Academy, with seven years under his belt. In honor of all of his hard work and dedication, he was awarded a gift basket with several donations from local businesses. "I never would've thought that something like this would happen," he states. "I mean, it was such a surprise, and I love surprises, but it just kind of took me aback. Not too often am I speechless, but that's just what I am. I'm speechless."

Mellmer was nominated for the award by three girls who take his class. He says that he teaches in a male-dominated field, but his students still say it's hard to find a teacher like him — and that whether it's big or small, he's making a difference.

"He's passionate about what he does," says Legacy High senior Brooke Hollar, "and I think he's an amazing role model for all of his students. He's always here to help you." Throughout the school year, students can nominate teachers for the award.



## Upcoming Dates for Transition to Teaching Program

Here is the schedule of meetings for Transition to Teaching for this year. Check [www.cte.nd.us](http://www.cte.nd.us) for more information.

### **SECONDARY**

November 3-December 3: Complete online  
January 19: Virtual Meeting

February 9-March 31: Complete online  
March 15: ND Heritage Center  
May 3: ND Heritage Center

### **POST-SECONDARY**

October 2-December 3: Book Study  
January 26: Virtual Meeting

February 5—April 7: Book Study  
February 23: ND Heritage Center  
April 26: VCSU Campus

## CTSO Leadership Perspective

Two years ago, I was the quiet kid in the back of class who never raised their hand. If I was told that someday I would be the state president for SkillsUSA, I would have never believed them. However, now I can look back and see how much I have grown both as a student and a person. My leadership skills have grown immensely, and I have my CTSO to thank for that. I am now comfortable taking charge instead of sitting in the background. I encourage everyone to try a career and technical education program, there is truly one for every person, and you make many friends and accomplishments on the way.

*Kendra Skramstad is the President of SkillsUSA North Dakota. She is a senior at Sheyenne Valley Area CTC in Valley City and is a second year member of SkillsUSA.*





# Summer FCSE Camps Bring Real World Learning to Young Learners

- Ann Dietchman, Supervisor, Family and Consumer Sciences Education

The mission of Family and Consumer Sciences Education is to prepare young people to make informed decisions about their well-being, relationships, and resources to achieve optimal quality of life. North Dakota Family & Consumer Sciences teachers and FCCLA members are bringing new experiences for some of our youngest learners in the area of food preparation and sewing. Children have a natural curiosity for the world and all the opportunities it holds. Cooking camps aid young learners interested in culinary skills on everything from how to use kitchen tools, reading a recipe, and measuring for success. And who knew, children love to sew! Children as young as 6 can learn valuable life skills that will follow them throughout their lives. Summer sewing and cooking camps are very popular and the best benefit, they enhance your child's natural curiosity to learn everything!

Young students at Tioga and MLS-Mohall Public Schools have had the opportunity to engage in both these types of camps over the past few years. Mrs. Sarah Carkuff, FCSE teacher at Tioga High School, started with the camp idea as a way for the FCCLA chapter to make money. Camps last anywhere from 1 to 3 days depending on the topic. The sewing camp invited students in grades 3 through 6 to learn the basics of sewing. The cooking camp is a one day camp for students in grades 4-6 can learn basic skills that lead to the students making their own lunch and end with baking bread from scratch!

In MLS-Mohall, the camp theme is "learn by doing" and camps are open to students in grades 5 through 8. The purpose of the camp is to teach middle school age youth essential skills for survival during the summer months. The target audience is to engage students who must fend for themselves during the day because both parents are working. A wide range of topics from basic food prep to money management to basic sew repairs are explored. The camps are 3 days and open to about 15 students for each camp.

FCS education aims to empower individuals to identify and create alternative solutions to significant everyday challenges such as young people learning about food preparation in a safe learning environment.

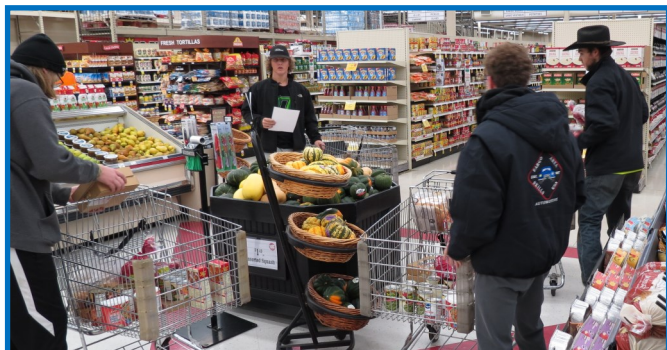
For more information contact Ann Dietchman, FCS Supervisor at [adietchman@nd.gov](mailto:adietchman@nd.gov). Photos are of students attending the Tioga sewing camp from last summer.





## SkillsUSA members from Fargo South Conduct Service Project

SkillsUSA North Dakota members from Fargo South High School completed a service-learning project in November. The students went shopping to fill Thanksgiving baskets to be donated to seven Native American families in the Fargo Public School district. The baskets included everything to make a traditional Thanksgiving meal. They were delivered to the families prior to Thanksgiving. Andrew Henjum, Skills USA lead advisor, organized this event.



## Fargo South members Promote DECA during DECA Month

DECA members at Fargo South High School set a goal to promote DECA and increase membership this fall. During DECA month, November, they promoted DECA throughout the city. Signs were designed and placed in the yards of the local DECA members and seven electronic billboards were seen throughout the city.

The members worked with Idigital signs in Fargo to have the promotion of DECA month placed on the electronic signs. Chapter advisor Sara Smith said, "The idea came from the chapter officers and they made the contacts to make it happen."



## CTSO Leadership Perspective

As the North Dakota HOSA president, I have been an active HOSA member for four years and have served on the executive team for three! I am continually inspired by the remarkable impact our student-led organization has on shaping future leaders in healthcare. Through CTE and CTSOs, students gain invaluable hands-on experience, cultivate essential leadership skills, and forge lifelong connections within Communities. In joining a CTSO, you embark on a transformative journey where you not only hone your professional competencies but also foster a deep sense of camaraderie and purpose. I encourage each and every student to seize this opportunity to ignite their passion, drive change, and pave the way for the brighter future of all Student Led Organizations. Together, let's make a difference and #Dare to Create

*Kyan Woodruff is a senior at Bismarck High School. He serves as s president for HOSA and is a four year member of North Dakota HOSA.*



# NDACTE Update: Free Online Lesson and More

- Carla Hixon, NDACTE Director

## NDACTE Receives Quality Association Standards Award

For the sixth year in a row, the ND Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) will be recognized with the Quality Association Standards (QAS) Award at the **State Association Leadership Breakfast on Saturday, December 2, during the ACTE VISION Conference**. The purpose of the QAS is to provide benchmarks for state associations to determine levels of performance and satisfactory service to their members and prospective members. QAS recognized states for implementing policies, procedures, and structure that demonstrate a high level of service and attention to member value. Tana Erbes, NDACTE President, said the “NDACTE board strives to meet or exceed the nonprofit organizational best practices outlined by ACTE. It is an honor to be recognized again this year.”



## Time to update your NDACTE Membership Information

NDACTE members, please take a moment to review your member profile information, including your email, address and Techniques preferences. From the [ACTE homepage](#), choose login (top right corner), and enter your username and password (contact ACTE membership services at e-mail below if you need help). Once logged in, you will see the option to update your profile including email, address and your Techniques subscription preferences. Members who opt out of receiving Techniques in the mail will continue to have access to the full PDF edition of each Techniques issue. If you have any questions, please contact [memberservices@acteonline.org](mailto:memberservices@acteonline.org).

## NDACTE CTE Learn offers over 180 self-paced credit courses for CTE Professionals

Each course provides 4 hours of continuing education credits. Participants can enroll in any course at any time to meet their individual learning needs.

Completion of NDACTE CTE Learn credit courses provides participants with a professional development recognition badge, a certificate of completion, and eligibility to apply for both undergraduate and graduate college credit. Learn More at [North Dakota ACTE - Online Learning Center \(ctelearn.org\)](#)

## Work-based Learning Training held in Bismarck in November

The fourth round of (WBL) Work-based Learning Coordinator training has begun; eleven participants attended the first day of in-person training on November 21, 2023. The in-person training days provide an excellent opportunity to connect and collaborate on WBL ideas statewide.

Julie Hersch, North Dakota CTE and Patrick Mineer, Golden Path Solutions, shared resources that are now available through [www.RUReady.ND.gov](http://www.RUReady.ND.gov) and Compass, the WBL Module. Participants worked with Dawn Ulmer to develop and revise forms required for WBL Programs, navigate WBL liability and safety issues, review WBL policies, and create customized training agreements and competency lists. It is inspiring to collaborate with educators from every area in the state of North Dakota as we strive to offer high quality WBL experiences to all students.



# State Director's Column

-Wayde Sick, Director, North Dakota Career and Technical Education

## 2023 in Review !

Happy Holidays from the staff at North Dakota Career and Technical Education. As we close out 2023, I would like to thank everyone involved in CTE for a great year. It is imperative that we all work together to promote CTE programs, work with our local communities and business partners, and provide the best education for our students. I want to thank our staff for their hard work in providing assistance to local CTE programs throughout the year.



We have had some great accomplishments and highlights this year including:

- Implemented a new brand/logo for North Dakota Career and Technical Education.
- Four new Career and Technology Centers offering programs in the 2023-24 school year, with the other nine projects in various stages of planning and construction.
- Forty-seven new and expanding CTE programs approved by the State Board for Career and Technical Education.
- Ninety-one new CTE instructors started in the fall of 2023.
- Twenty-two new career development counselors and career advisors started in 2023.
- One new CTE Director started in 2023.
- Thirty-two Work-Based Learning Coordinators have been trained and endorsed since the summer of 2022, with thirteen being supported by the Work-Based Learning Coordinator Grant
- Growth of the RUPrimaryND work-based learning module, Compass. Currently 340 employers, 10,000 students and 400 unique work-based learning opportunities are in the module.
- Ten Team Vision Visits for CTE programs and several individual visits.
- 53rd Annual North Dakota CTE Conference was held in August, with over 600 participants.

I am grateful for the opportunity to work with all you. I look forward to what 2024 has to offer.

For any questions, please feel free to contact me at [wasick@nd.gov](mailto:wasick@nd.gov).

Wayde Sick  
State CTE Director

Wayde Sick

State Director

North Dakota CTE

## North Dakota CTE Board Members

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*Dept of Public Instruction  
Bismarck*

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*Westhope*

**Dr. Mark Hagerott**  
*ND University System,  
Bismarck*

**Burdell Johnson**  
*Tuttle*

**Josh Johnson**  
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**Mike McHugh, Vice Chair**  
*Bismarck*

**Sonia Meehl, Chair**  
*Oakes*

**Eric Nelson**  
*Williston*





Mark Wagner, Assistant Director,

## Assistant Director's Corner

### CTE Teacher Certification Offers Flexibility

- Mark Wagner, Assistant Director

Career and Technical Education (CTE) plays a crucial role in preparing students for success in the workforce. In North Dakota, individuals aspiring to become CTE teachers, although there are various flexible options, must follow a specific licensure process to ensure they are well-equipped to educate and guide students toward fulfilling careers. For the specific CTE areas refer to our CTE webpage [www.cte.nd.gov/teacher-licensing](http://www.cte.nd.gov/teacher-licensing). Not only are options in the various program areas in secondary listed, but those in Post Secondary and for ND Farm Management Education programs are as well.

Listed below with a very brief description are the three main options for obtaining a CTE License:

#### Mission of CTE

The mission of the State Board for Career and Technical Education is to work with others to provide all North Dakota citizens with the technical skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary for successful performance in a globally competitive workplace.

#### Traditional

Must hold a valid secondary teaching license issued by the North Dakota Education Standards and Practices Board to teach the specific area courses.

#### Praxis Testing Option or American Board Testing Option

Must hold a valid North Dakota Regular Educator Professional License for a minimum of two years. Must successfully complete the Test(s), meeting or exceeding the minimum scores determined by ESPB.

#### Alternative Teacher Licensure

Individuals must have an offer of employment from a school to go through the Alternative Licensing process. These alternative options shall be directed toward the needs of non-traditional candidates for teaching and shall not include students who are in traditional teacher education programs.

In the areas of the Trade, Industry, Technical, and Health Sciences the Instructors shall have a minimum of four years (8,000 hours) of progressive work experience in the occupation to be taught within the past eight years. Successful passage of an approved competency examination may be substituted for one year (2,000 hours) of work experience. Individuals who have earned two or more semester hours of instruction in an approved specialized secondary program within the last five years could receive credit toward work experience.

Becoming a CTE teacher in North Dakota involves a comprehensive process that combines education, practical experience, and a commitment to professional development. By following and staying informed about any updates to licensure requirements, aspiring CTE teachers can contribute to the success of students and the growth of Career and Technical Education in the state. For the most accurate and up-to-date information, individuals should regularly consult the NDCTE and NDESPB websites.