

## ***Up-to-Date with DATE***

Important News and Information from OVAE's Division of Academic and Technical Education (DATE)  
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### ***Message from the Director***

#### ***“Have you completed your 2009 Customer Satisfaction Survey yet?”***

In mid-April the department e-mailed a short questionnaire to each state director of career and technical education through its contractor, the CFI Group, seeking to measure your satisfaction with DATE's services and products. If you have not responded already (thanks to those who have!), please take a few moments to do so. It should only take 15 minutes and your responses will be strictly confidential. Your response is valuable to us as it helps us to develop new and modify existing services and products to better meet your needs as our number one customer!

Sharon Lee Miller  
Director, DATE

### ***Welcome Deputy Assistant Secretary Glenn Cummings***

Secretary of Education Arne Duncan recently appointed Glenn Cummings as Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Office of Vocational and Adult Education. As former Speaker in the Maine House of Representatives, his accomplishments include passage of the bipartisan biennial budget, brokerage of an agreement on the largest economic investment bond package in the state's history, and leadership of a bipartisan effort to increase higher education appropriations. Earlier he served as Majority Leader and as House Chair on the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Mr. Cummings also held the position of Dean of Advancement at Southern Maine Community College where he founded the Entrepreneurial Center. He also served as Executive Director of the Portland Partnership where he built strategic partnerships between businesses and high school students.

Cummings is working on his Doctorate in Higher Education Management from the University of Pennsylvania and has previously earned a Masters of Public Administration from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard, a Master of Arts in teaching from Brown University, and a Bachelor of Arts from Ohio Wesleyan University.

### ***Peer Collaborative Resource Network Web Site Redesign Complete***

DATE, in collaboration with its contractors at KAI Associates, Inc., has restructured and updated its Peer Collaborative Resource Network (PCRN) Web Site. We welcome your views on the revamped site, using the “Feedback” button on the lower right-hand corner of the Home page. We also encourage you to add a link to the site to your Internet “favorites” and to view the page frequently for updates on DATE's initiatives, programs, and activities.

The PCRN Web address is: <http://cte.ed.gov/>

### ***Annual Spring Meeting Materials Now Available***

Resource materials that were handed out at the April 2009 Annual Spring Meeting for state directors of career and technical education are now available on the Peer Collaborative Resource Network (PCRN) Web site at <http://cte.ed.gov/>. Click on "View Materials" to find:

- The National Association of State Directors of Career and Technical Education (NASDCTEc) binder,
- Handouts from OVAE presenters, and
- Handouts from the Rigorous Programs of Study grantees.

### ***Next Step Work Group Conference Calls***

The Next Step Work Group (NSWG) conference calls serve as a communication vehicle for DATE staff, the states, and key partners to discuss issues pertaining to Perkins accountability systems. Conference calls are typically held on the first Thursday of each month from 2:00-3:00 p.m. ET. Sub-groups may be formed to address emerging/pending issues as necessary. Anyone interested is welcome to join in on the calls.

Below is information on upcoming calls.

| <b>Date</b>       | <b>Call Number</b> | <b>Call ID</b> | <b>Tentative Topic</b>   |
|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|--|
| June 4, 2009      | 1-866-390-5250     | 5707853        | The Education Data Exchange Network (EDEN)   |
| July 9, 2009      | 1-866-390-5250     | 5707853        | Implementation Status of Technical Skill Assessment  |
| August 6, 2009    | 1-866-390-5250     | 5707853        | Challenges and Solutions to Implementing Perkins IV Measurement Definitions and Approaches |
| September 3, 2009 | 1-866-390-5250     | 5707853        | How Has Perkins IV Accountability Data Informed or Changed Local CTE Programs?             |

For further information on the NSWG, please contact John Haigh at [john.haigh@ed.gov](mailto:john.haigh@ed.gov).

### ***FAUPL Negotiations***

OVAE's Regional Accountability Specialists (RAS's) are conducting initial negotiations with states on program year three (FY 2009-2010) and program year four (FY 2010-2011) final agreed upon performance levels (FAUPL) for each of the Sec. 113(b) core indicators. RAS's will conduct final negotiations during the month of June. Please note that performance levels are not considered "final" until OVAE and other department officials have approved the levels and they are incorporated into the state's July 1, 2009, Perkins grant award notifications (GANs).

### ***A Key Resource for CTE***

The National Research Center for Career and Technical Education (NRCCTE) at the University of Louisville is a primary source for scientifically-based knowledge, dissemination, professional development, and technical assistance to improve career and technical education. Funded by OVAE, and working in partnership with the University of Minnesota, Cornell University, Clemson University, the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE), the National Association of State Directors of Career and Technical Education Consortium (NASDCTE), the Southern Regional Education Board, the National Occupational Competency Testing Institute (NOCTI) and the Academy for Educational Development (AED), the center's mission is to improve the engagement, achievement, and transition of high school and postsecondary career and technical education students through technical assistance to states, professional development for career and technical education practitioners, and dissemination of knowledge derived from scientifically-based research.

NRCCTE just released their newest publication: *What Will Be the Impact of Programs of Study? A Preliminary Assessment Based on Similar Previous Initiatives, State Plans for Implementation, and Career Development Theory* by Morgan V. Lewis and Natalie R. Kosine with the assistance of Laura Overman. The study examined four precursors to the career and technical programs of study model: Tech Prep, career clusters/pathways, youth apprenticeships, and dual/concurrent enrollment. It also examined how states implemented their career and technical programs of study. Additionally, the study used Donald Super's theory on career development to review the implications of career development theory as it relates to student decisions about POS. The complete report is on the NRCCTE website at <http://www.nrccte.org>.

Other resources you can find on the center Web site are: the NRCCTE newsletter, information about studies, webcasts, podcasts, upcoming events, press releases, and more. Additionally, you can sign up on the website to receive the NRCCTE newsletter, studies, and alerts about upcoming events and studies.

For further information, please contact Carolyn Lee at [carolyn.lee@ed.gov](mailto:carolyn.lee@ed.gov); Ricardo Hernandez at [ricardo.hernandez@ed.gov](mailto:ricardo.hernandez@ed.gov); or Gregory Henschel at [gregory.henschel@ed.gov](mailto:gregory.henschel@ed.gov)

### ***Agricultural Education Update: Free Tomato Seeds!!***

The National FFA Organization, in partnership with Campbell Soup Company and Urban Farming, is continuing its *Help Grow Your Soup* campaign this spring with a goal to grow more than one billion tomatoes across the country! The effort begins with the planting of five community gardens in the urban communities of New York City, Atlanta, Detroit, Chicago, and Camden, NJ.

Partners in the effort include:

- The Campbell Soup Company which will donate tomato, carrot, and sweet pepper seeds (the same seeds that grow the vegetables that go into the well known Campbell's condensed soup) to each garden,
- The National FFA Organization's Partners in Active Learning Support (PALS) program, which pairs FFA members with elementary students, which will plant and maintain the gardens, and
- Urban Farming, an organization dedicated to ending hunger and providing healthy food for people in need by planting gardens on unused land and space, which will also plant and maintain the gardens.

These gardens will not only produce food for the community, but also contribute to educating participants about American agriculture.

The campaign continues through June 21, 2009. Anyone who purchases Campbell's condensed soup and enters the code on the can at [HelpGrowYoursoup.com](http://HelpGrowYoursoup.com) will receive a free packet of Campbell's tomato seeds to plant and grow at home. Each request means that Campbell will donate seeds to the national FFA Organization to help grow one billion tomatoes.

For more information, please contact Steve Brown at: [Steve.Brown@ed.gov](mailto:Steve.Brown@ed.gov) or Larry Case at: [Larry.Case@ed.gov](mailto:Larry.Case@ed.gov).

## **Perkins 2009 Monitoring Schedule**

**Note: Unless specified with an asterisk (\*), monitoring visits will be full, week-long visits.**

| <b>State</b>         | <b>Dates</b>          |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Minnesota*           | June 1-2, 2009        |
| Oregon               | July 13-17, 2009      |
| District of Columbia | August 10-14, 2009    |
| Nevada               | August 24-28, 2009    |
| Puerto Rico          | September 21-25, 2009 |

For information on monitoring visits, please contact Ed Smith at [edward.smith@ed.gov](mailto:edward.smith@ed.gov) or Len Lintner at [len.lintner@ed.gov](mailto:len.lintner@ed.gov).

### **Mark Your Calendar!**

**(Note: Events listed below are sponsored or funded by OVAE, or are events at which OVAE will present)**

| <b>Event Title/Sponsor</b>   | <b>Dates/Location</b>                       | <b>DATE Point of Contact</b>                                   |
|--|---|--|
| 7 <sup>th</sup> Annual Career Clusters Institute/ <i>NASDCTEc</i>                  | June 15-17, 2009<br>Fort Worth, TX          | <a href="mailto:Ellen.Holland@ed.gov">Ellen.Holland@ed.gov</a> |
| 2009 National Career Pathways Network Convention/ <i>NCPN</i>                      | September 30-October 3, 2009<br>Atlanta, GA | <a href="mailto:Ellen.Holland@ed.gov">Ellen.Holland@ed.gov</a> |
| ACTE 2009 Convention/ <i>Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE)</i> | November 19-21, 2009<br>Nashville, TN       | <a href="mailto:Scott.Hess@ed.gov">Scott.Hess@ed.gov</a>       |



## ***Spotlight on Effective Practices!***

### ***STEM Transitions Projects Now Available for Secondary School Programs***

The *STEM Transitions: Enhancing Mathematics and Science Rigor through Evidence-Based Curriculum Projects*, a curriculum development initiative produced by the Center for Occupational Research and Development (CORD), and funded by OVAE under a cooperative agreement with the League for Innovation in the Community College, completed 62 integrated curriculum projects for use in mathematics, science, and technical courses at the community college level in the six STEM-related clusters. Now those projects will be adapted for use at the secondary level and will be identified as such on the *STEM Transitions* Web site: [www.stemtransitions.org](http://www.stemtransitions.org).

Each project includes background material necessary for the project to be taught within a cluster course as well as the related academic area. The projects include assessment strategies and rubrics, evidence-based teaching strategies, and authentic tasks that encourage career exploration, team-building, and critical thinking.

For further information, contact Ellen Holland at: [ellen.holland@ed.gov](mailto:ellen.holland@ed.gov)