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# THE REFLECTOR



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## Nevada Department of Education

### **Vision:**

All Nevada students are equipped and feel empowered to attain their vision of success

### **Mission:**

To improve student achievement and educator effectiveness by ensuring opportunities, facilitating learning, and promoting excellence



## From the Director's Office *by Craig Statucki*



At the time of this writing, the 2023 Legislative Session has 10 days left. I wanted to provide a brief update on the Department of Education's bills related to career and technical education (CTE).

**Senate Bill 9 (SB9)** has several items related to the Department of Education, but Section 2 of the bill looks to modify the language related to utilizing state CTE funds for leadership and training activities. This section of the funding has been disabled in the 2015, 2017, 2019, and 2021 legislative sessions which prevents the Department of Education from utilizing state CTE funds to support Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO). In the proposed language, the Department is asking to utilize state CTE funds for CTSOs, workforce development activities such as work-based learning and industry recognized credentials, and professional development for educators to earn industry recognized credentials and be eligible to teach dual credit CTE courses. **Status:** This bill has been passed out of the Senate Education Committee and has been referred to the Senate Finance Committee.

**Assembly Bill 65 (AB65)** has several items related to the Department of Education, but Section 9 of the bill looks to modify the language related to work-based learning plans. The proposed language will change the authority to approve a district's work-based learning plan from the State Board of Education to the Superintendent of Instruction which will increase the approval time to approve the work-based learning plans. **Status:** This bill has been passed out of the Senate Education Committee.

There are some other bills that are related to career and technical education that are not from the Department of Education. As an agency that serves the Governor's office, the Department of Education is neutral on all bills outside of the Department's bills, but can provide technical assistance to bill sponsors upon request of the bill sponsor. All of these bills have passed the initial committee that it was introduced in and are moving forward to the next steps of the process.

**AB207** and **AB256** revises provisions governing work-based learning programs.

**AB241** revises provisions governing the education of pupils enrolled in a public high school. This is related to the College and Career Readiness Diploma.

If you are interested in tracking these bills or any other bills, you can utilize the NELIS system at <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/82nd2023>.

*Craig Statucki*  
Interim Deputy Superintendent of Educator Effectiveness and Family Engagement



**From the  
Director's Office**  
*by Cindi Chang*



At the time of this writing, we have made it half-way through this legislative session that has seen a lot of focus on CTE, work-based learning, Teaching and Training pathways, teacher licensure, and many other items of particular relevance to our collective work. We have an article in this edition dedicated to bringing you up to date on the legislative bills to watch.

This school year, our Nevada Department of Education (NDE) CTE team has had the privilege to collaborate with the NDE Office of Inclusive Education (OIE) on their Paraprofessional Project. OIE has a wonderful opportunity in place that positions paraprofessionals within CTE classrooms, along with additional support for those CTE educators and students with differing abilities, for all students in those CTE pathways to be as successful as they can while supporting each other in the process.

The CTE team was able to provide these amazing paraprofessionals with equipment and supplies to support their work in the various classrooms, some of whom assist multiple CTE classrooms at their location. Through a mini grant from Advance CTE, our OIE and CTE teams were able to administer two days of virtual “train-the-trainer” meetings for districts across the state. Each district team brought a member of their CTE staff and a member of their special

education staff to the training to ensure collaboration and calibration as they have future strategic planning and analysis around this work.

On day one, the districts used resources provided by our OIE and CTE teams to examine state-level data samples using analysis techniques developed by Advance CTE to help identify student opportunity gaps. On day two, the districts were able to use the techniques learned in the previous training to examine their own district- and school-level data to begin strategic conversations on how to use their resources to narrow those opportunity gaps. Ultimately, we hope this training will prove beneficial for them as they analyze their incoming data from their Paraprofessional Projects to ensure they are meeting their student and educator needs in the most effective way to increase positive student outcomes for all CTE students they serve.

It is always a pleasure to work with the outstanding professionals we have in Nevada who are striving to provide the best educational experience for the students they serve. I am in awe of you, every day. Thank you!!

*Cindi Chang, Interim Director of the Office of Career Readiness, Adult Learning, and Education Options*



Hats off to Denise Burton of the office of Career Readiness, Adult Learning, and Education Options (CRALEO) for being a part of the Certified Public Manager Program (CPM), class 18! She graduated on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023, in Carson City.

The CPM program is a nationally recognized and nationally accredited leadership development program for public managers and supervisors. It is an 18-month program which caps off with a Capstone Quality Improvement Project. Denise created an online flipbook with information about all of the industry recognized credentials available to students in the Career and Technical Education Programs in Nevada. This amazing resource will be available to districts soon!



### Attendees

Nevada Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) has seen an incREDible membership growth this past year. Due to this success, the organization hosted 418 attendees at this year's State Leadership Conference (SLC). Students and Advisers were excited to be back for the new year while having a great time meeting with other chapters and members. Nevada FCCLA also had the honor to receive a very special keynote address from State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jhone Ebert, covering the importance of Career and Technical Education, along with Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) involvement.

### Competitive events and National Leadership Conference qualification

At the State Leadership Conference this year, there was a variety of competitive events available to students covering FCCLA's career pathways of Hospitality and Tourism, Visual Arts and Design, Education and Training, and Human Services. Some representative events for each career pathway include Culinary Arts, Fashion Design, Early Childhood Education, and Interpersonal communications. This year, students competed in over 40 competitive events covering all the career pathways as well as overall career preparation and skills. Our students were completely ready to compete, with Career Investigation and Teach and Train as the competitive events to receive the most gold medalists.

We also had an IncREDible number of qualifications for our National Leadership Conference with 65 students qualifying to further their events at the National Leadership Conference in Denver, Colorado this upcoming summer!

### Student Leadership: Newly elected Officer Team and Day at the Capitol

Nevada FCCLA saw a fully elected office team for the 2023-2024 school year at SLC with eight elected State Officers. The upcoming officers participated in their first officer training and made their first appearance onstage as they were introduced to their positions. A week after SLC, a couple of former and upcoming officers received the opportunity to represent Nevada FCCLA at our capitol, Carson City. These students were able to network with state senators and assembly members and meet their own representatives. Representatives from all the Nevada CTSOs, including FCCLA were recognized on the assembly floor and got to visit with legislators one-on-one. Everyone had a great time and enjoyed the day, as they got to build more career preparation skills.

*FCCLA had an incREDibly successful year. We look forward to this success carrying on into this upcoming year!*



**By Sonny Lopez**  
**Nevada FFA Association**  
**Reporter**



“Living to serve” is one line of the FFA motto that five Nevada FFA State Officers have embraced since March 2022. They made the choice to take their leadership skills to the next level, and they have personally grown as servant leaders.

We asked them, “What does leadership mean to you in your year of service?”

Their answers:

**Nevada FFA State President Ryan Olson:** “Service this year is being able to connect with our students through our chapter visits, inspire our students through our informative workshops, and advocate for agriculture and the FFA. In the future, I hope to continue to inspire and give back to our students as an agriculture teacher! I plan to continue to be an advocate for agriculture and the FFA.”

**Nevada FFA State Vice President Gabriella Minoletti:** “Leadership is not the position or the title. It is an action and an example. I firmly believe that the state officer leadership position we are put in is as beneficial and impactful as we make it. I think everyone has the opportunity to be a leader, and your actions and the example you set are what make you a good leader. After my year of service, I plan on continuing my education by receiving a degree in Agriculture Education and Political Science-Journalism.”

**Nevada FFA State Secretary Lander Smith:** “This year, ‘service’ means a lot to me in different ways. It means inspiring young leaders and agriculturalists to step out of their comfort zones. It is supporting our stu-

dents by encouraging, motivating, and educating them on an array of topics. Serving Nevada FFA this year and beyond is a passion of mine, and I enjoy sharing it with students and anyone else I can! I’m studying agricultural science with a minor in business. I plan to work in the cattle industry.”

**Nevada FFA State Treasurer Roland Norris:** “I look at my year of service as a State Officer as an opportunity for adventure. Doors have opened for me, and I have seen a lot of new things. My plan for the future is, first, to continue traveling as much as possible, and then settle with my passion for poultry production [hopefully with plans to expand to other animals soon].”

**Nevada FFA State Reporter Sonny Lopez:** “Throughout high school, I loved to participate in activities that included leadership, especially FFA. Now being a State Officer, I can say I truly understand the depth and importance of trying to be a leader for others. I love helping teach students about opportunities in agriculture, learning about how they were exposed to it, and how much they love the agricultural world. My hope is to take these concepts further in my life, so I can do my part in developing myself as well as helping those around me.”



This year, The Nevada Association of SkillsUSA has worked diligently to increase our membership. We currently have over 3,820, Students, Professionals, and Alumni registered members. We look forward to hosting 1,090 members and competitors, along with many business and industry partners, and volunteers during our State Championships this April in Reno. This school year we held our Fall Leadership event in Las Vegas last November. The State Officers also had the opportunity to promote SkillsUSA and CTE at the Nevada Legislature in February.

The Nevada Board of Directors and the SkillsUSA Officer team are excited to be hosting the SkillsUSA Nevada State Championships in Reno, April 18 – 21, 2023.

This summer, our gold-medal champions will travel to Atlanta, Georgia to compete against the best in the nation. During the 2022 National SkillsUSA Championship last June, Nevada brought home 3 gold and 3 silver medals.

SkillsUSA Nevada is extremely grateful for all the support we have received throughout the pandemic and are looking forward to the future successes of our members.



*Joseph Sandusky,*  
*Nevada SkillsUSA Vice President*  
*Abigail Donohoe,*  
*Nevada SkillsUSA Treasurer*  
*Evelyn Maile,*  
*Nevada SkillsUSA Secretary*  
*Troy Barrera,*  
*Nevada SkillsUSA President*



## Upcoming Events in 2023

June 15, 2023	Certificate of Skill Attainment Earner Report
June 19-23, 2023	SkillsUSA National Leadership Conference Atlanta, GA
June 19-22, 2023	Nevada FFA Summer Leadership Conference Lake Tahoe, NV
June 21-24, 2023	HOSA International Leadership Conference Dallas, TX
June 27-30, 2023	FBLA National Leadership Conference Atlanta, GA
June 30, 2023	QPR Annual Report and Evidence
July 17-21, 2023	NACTE Summer Conference Lake Tahoe, NV
July 28, 2023	Work Based Learning And Industry Recognized Credential Data Collection



The Nevada Department of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or expression, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.



### CTE Mission Statement:

The Office of Career Readiness, Adult Learning, and Education Options is dedicated to developing innovative educational opportunities for students to acquire skills for productive employment and lifelong learning.

**Jhone M. Ebert**  
Superintendent of Public Instruction

**Jonathan P. Moore, Ed.D.**  
Deputy Superintendent of  
Student Achievement

**Megan Peterson**  
Deputy Superintendent for  
Student Investment Division

**Craig Statucki**  
Interim Deputy Superintendent  
for Educator Effectiveness  
and Family Engagement

**Cindi Chang**  
Interim Director for the Office of  
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and Education Options

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