

Greetings from the President and the Executive Director

Greetings Mississippi ACTE members. There were 1400 attendees at the MS ACTE Summer Conference, which includes MDE and RCU. I want to extend a huge thank you to those who ensured the conference was a success. Please express to others the benefits of attending the conference such as, networking with colleagues, resource sharing, and curriculum revisions to mention a few. If you have any ideas for improving the conference email your MSACTE affiliate president and/or your MDE State Supervisor.



Your involvement is essential to the success of YOUR professional organization. An organization that is fighting for CTE in Washington and in Jackson. MSACTE membership stands at 1099 members however, there are CTE educators in the state that are still not members. Please help in recruiting those who are not members to join. I charged those present at the summer conference to become involved in MSACTE. I understand very well the stress of presenting the curriculum, PULSE, being an advisor of a student organization, and meeting the needs of my students. I implore you to get involved, be a voice. MSACTE voted to have fifteen districts, be on the lookout for your local meeting, attend, and speak up. This will be a great avenue for you to get involved.

Love what you're doing! Pele said, "Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice, and most of all, love of what you are doing or learning to do." As CTE Educators we know the impact we can make on a student. We teach a theory, a skill, and the cool thing is we get to witness our students applying said skill and maybe even using the skill to support themselves one day.

Most of us have completed the first term of this school year. That gives you roughly 135 days left with your students but the influence you make on them will last a lifetime. Make it count! "Students don't care how much you know until they know how much you care!" John C. Maxwell.

Greetings from the MS ACTE office. We are thankful for everyone who attended the Summer Conference in Biloxi. We are actively planning for next year and will be looking for leaders to assist the Affiliate Division Presidents in planning the professional development sessions for all of the respective CTE pathways. If you are interested in serving on a planning team for your program area, please contact your Affiliate President and/or the MS ACTE office.



The national Achieve 100 Award membership deadline is December 31, 2023. This means for your school to qualify for the Award all CTE faculty must be active members by December 31st. The application is located on the national ACTE website and the deadline for CTE Directors to complete the application process is February 1, 2024.

We are actively building our membership database for the new MS ACTE District areas based on community college zones. You should receive a survey link to help us identify the community college zone for your school district. It is brief and will only take a few minutes of your time. It is extremely important that we provide our District Presidents with relevant contact information so that you receive information regarding the upcoming Spring meetings.

Finally, I would like to thank those who submitted articles for the Fall issue of the Reporter. Our goal is to publish articles and CTE news from every school district in the state at least once per year. Therefore, we need everyone to share your program highlights along with student and faculty achievements with us throughout the year. Please email your photos and articles to mississippi-acte@gmail.com. The deadline for submissions for the Spring Reporter is January 31, 2024.

Forrest County Agricultural High School

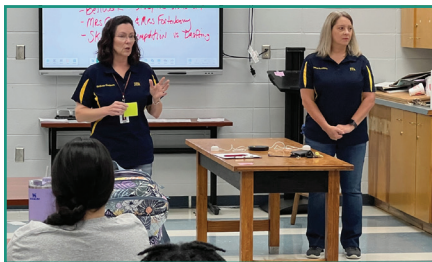
Submitted by: Melissa Graham

A great group of CTE students from Forrest County AHS attended Mission Possible on August 31 at William Carey University. The event started with a campus tour of WCU, with stops at important buildings and dorms. Guest speakers covered topics such as resume' writing, job interview skills, work ethic and motivation. Both breakfast and lunch were served, free of charge, with door prizes given away at the conclusion. When surveyed after the event, FCAHS students said they definitely learned how to improve their skills to prepare them for college/career paths they would take after graduation.



Law & Public Safety students aren't afraid to get their hands dirty! As a "hands on" lesson in the importance of cleaning and maintaining law enforcement equipment, students cleaned the FCAHS campus police car.

Nutrition and Wellness students put their classroom theory to work in the kitchen, making Chicken Rotel Tacos. Kitchen safety, menu planning, and nutrition facts were all used in the making of this meal. Students said the best part was eating it!



Student Services Coordinator, Denise Fortenberry, and CTE Counselor, Melissa Graham, visited all CTE classes at the start of the school year. They shared the services they provide, office locations and answered questions from students.

HOSA Students Place at International Competition

Submitted by Amy Price

Health Science Students from the Kosciusko-Attala Career Tech Center attended the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) International Competition this summer in Dallas, TX. The group of students as well as their instructor, Amy Price, traveled to Dallas, TX on June 20-25, 2023 to attend the International Leadership Conference.



The Community Awareness Team: Akeelah Hunt, Mary Kimble Price, SaraBeth Moore and Ty Ramage, placed 9th. The Kosciusko-Attala CTC Health Science group was also named as an Outstanding HOSA Chapter at the International level.

Pictured are as follows: (left to right) Akeelah Hunt, Ty Ramage, SaraBeth Moore, Mary Kimble Price (Community Awareness); Amy

Price (Instructor); Avery Jones (Medical Reading and Outstanding HOSA Chapter); Karlee Barrett (Home Health Aide); and Laura Beth Wood (Medical Reading)

A special "Thank You" to all of the businesses as well as individuals that supported these students. Your generosity allowed them to have this great opportunity to represent Kosciusko and Attala County well.



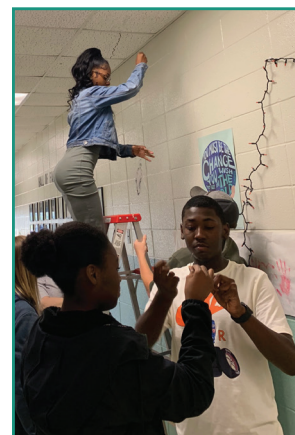
Benton County CTC increasing Community Awareness

Submitted by: Karen Patterson

One of the goals of the Benton County CTC this year is to increase community awareness and increase awareness of the benefits of CTE Education. Several activities will be completed over this school year. The first thing that was completed was Dr. Karen Patterson was awarded the One by One grant from 4imprint. The grant amount was for \$500 and 2 retractable banners were purchased to be placed at the feeder schools, as well as a banner advertising that our greenhouse is open.

The next event that will be held is a Halloween Event for the Elementary Schools within Benton County School District. Both Hickory Flat Attendance Center and Ashland Elementary students will attend a Halloween event where the students will go through the haunted house as well as play Halloween themed games. Elementary Students will also receive a Goodie bag after the event. CTC students have decorated the haunted house and developed themes for each room. CTC students will have the responsibilities of being group leaders walking the students to each station, being actors and actresses in the haunted house and leading the games. In preparation for this event, CTC students have had to work on their communication skills, team working skills, and other soft skills. There will be over 500 elementary students attending the Halloween event. We are excited to be able to promote CTE education and provide valuable learning and memorable experiences for our students.

Also, the Health Sciences students went to Ashland Elementary to promote correct hand hygiene. The Health Sciences students worked with the 1st-grade students on proper hand washing techniques teaching the students a handwashing song. CTC students were able to practice presenting information to the students as well as using good communication skills.



Vicksburg Warren Career & Technical Education Center Culinary II students visit US. Foods

The Vicksburg Warren Career & Technical Education Center Culinary II students were able to tour the US. Foods Plant in Jackson, MS on Thursday, September 28, 2023. At the facility, students were shown how both cold and dry food are stored as well as how food was distributed to the various grocery stores and restaurants. The students continued with the tour and were able to cook with one of the US Foods chefs, Chef Connor Wolf. Under Chef Wolf's tutelage, students learned how to make simple restaurant appetizers such as spring rolls, potato crisps and fried cauliflower bites. Chef Wolf, along with the US. Foods staff, explained how they assist restaurants on menu design and menu food choices. Overall, the tour of the facility was an excellent experience for these future chefs.



Sumrall High School Diversified Animal Science Class

Dr. White and her daughter Rylee who is a student in James Robert's Diversified Animal Science class at Sumrall High School brought her show calves to class. The class had been studying how to evaluate livestock for the past three weeks. Pictures show some excited students as they all got to lead the heifers around in the barn classroom. Sumrall High School appreciates community members willing to allow students the opportunity to apply the knowledge they are learning in the classroom and get hands-on experiences with working with show animals.



Welcome to Reality

Submitted by: Brandi Waddell

Welcome to Reality is an activity we have monthly at the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career Technical Center. We have one day scheduled each month for our students to go to a different classroom at our center to learn important life skills. During the month of August, our Educator Prep students went to our Carpentry classroom to learn about power tools used in the home, as well as good multipurpose tools that are useful in our daily lives. Our Early Childhood Education class went to our Law and Public Safety classroom to learn about professional workplace behavior and skills needed to help them be successful in their careers. Our Construction Technology students went to our Early Childhood Education classroom and learned basic sewing skills while practicing on a sewing machine. Our Welding and Automotive students went to our Health Science class to learn adult and infant CPR. Finally, our Health Science and Law and Public Safety classes went to Welding to learn how to do basic home repairs and to our Automotive classroom to learn how to properly jump start a car using a jumper box and jumper cables that you can buy for home use. Our students loved attending the different classes to learn new life skills!



(left photo) Mr. Flake is demonstrating to the Health Science class how to connect cables correctly when jump-starting a vehicle.

(center photo) Ms. Powe is teaching a Construction student how to use a sewing machine.

(right photo) Welding students practicing CPR they learned from Mrs. Stokes.

Pontotoc Ridge Career and Technology Center Launches Innovative Veterinary Science Program with Dorper Ewes Inaugural Year Sees the Birth of New Educational Opportunities in Agriculture

The Pontotoc Ridge Career and Technology Center (PRCTC) is making strides in the field of agriculture education with the launch of the new Diversified Agricultural Veterinary Science class. In its inaugural year, the program is already setting a high standard for experiential learning and hands-on instruction.

The heart of this pioneering program is a brand-new barn, specially designed to house animals for class and lab instruction. Currently, the barn is home to five Dorper ewes, born in March. The ewes are being halter-broke for handling, grooming, and demonstrations, both on and off campus, allowing students to gain essential skills in animal husbandry and care.

The PRCTC Veterinary Science program aims to take agricultural education to the next level. The program's visionary leadership plans to expand the animal population on campus and extend its offerings. In the near future, they hope to breed the ewes, offering students the opportunity to experience lambing firsthand. This expansion will be a significant addition to the program, providing a comprehensive understanding of animal breeding and the life cycle of farm animals.

The new curriculum is designed to cover various aspects of veterinary science and agriculture, including nutrition and feeding of animals, health record keeping, and agricultural business practices. Students will be well-prepared for careers in veterinary medicine, animal science, and other related fields. Additionally, the program has ambitious plans to add swine, cattle, and poultry to its offerings as equipment and opportunities arise, ensuring students have a well-rounded education in agriculture.

"This program is a game-changer for our students," said Director Patricia Ellison at PRCTC. "It brings the farm to the classroom and the classroom to the farm, offering a unique blend of hands-on experience and classroom learning. We're excited

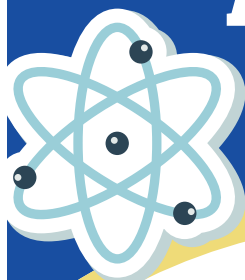
to see how this program will positively impact our students."

In an era where hands-on learning is increasingly essential, the Pontotoc Ridge Career and Technical Center's Veterinary Science program strives for innovation, bringing real-world experience and career readiness to the forefront of agricultural education. With the growth and expansion plans in sight, the PRCTC is nurturing the agricultural leaders of tomorrow while ensuring a brighter future for the industry.



IS THERE A SECRET CTE HERO
IN YOUR SCHOOL OR
COMMUNITY?

MSACTE EXCELLENCE AWARDS



Help us bring the best in CTE out into the spotlight by nominating someone for a Mississippi ACTE Member Award! The Member Awards bring well-deserved prestige and recognition to members across the country for their innovation and dedication to career and technical education. Mississippi ACTE is conducting a statewide search for the following:

Deadline
January 17, 2024

- ACTE Teacher of the Year
- ACTE Administrator of the Year
- ACTE Postsecondary Professional of the Year
- ACTE Counseling & Career Development Professional Award
- ACTE New Teacher of the Year
- ACTE Teacher Educator of the Year
- ACTE Carl Perkins Community Service Award
- ACTE Lifetime Achievement Award

Visit our webpage to
apply for these awards
www.mississippiacte.com





Writing a Strong Award Nomination

How you represent a candidate's accomplishments and qualities in a nomination is critical in making the best impression on judges. Here are some tips for making the most out of your nomination:

Persuasiveness & Impact

- Does your nomination address the criteria for the award? Looking at the rubric will give you an idea of what areas are most important.
- Are you being descriptive enough with your candidate's achievements? How did the nominee contribute to the goal, and what were the end results? Include measurable outcomes or milestones where possible (growth in programs, better retention, higher graduation rates, more students going to college, higher test scores, increased funding, etc.)
- What makes this candidate unique from others in the profession? How has he or she gone above and beyond? Provide concrete examples over general descriptions.

Clarity & Conciseness

- Can you sum up in one sentence why the nominee deserves recognition? Keep your writing focused and make every word count. Don't worry about adding details that don't speak to the candidate's qualifications for the award.
- Is it easy for the reader to follow your train of thought and identify how every point addresses the criteria for the award? Keep the application organized; use bullet points if appropriate.
- Explain achievements in plain language. Judges may not be as familiar with activities that are specific to your content area, program or CTSO. Try to eliminate or explain jargon where possible.

Professionalism

- **Proofread!** Type your application in Microsoft Word or a program that will catch basic spelling and grammatical mistakes before copying into the online form. Then ask a peer or colleague to proofread your application. Two sets of eyes are better than one!

Requesting Letters of Recommendation

A positive endorsement from a colleague, peer or supervisor can be a very powerful way to showcase the qualities and achievements of the candidate. Be sure to choose your sources carefully! You can help your recommenders by providing them with a copy of the award criteria and your resume so they can write specifically to those qualities. Ask them to sign and date their letters for you—these details make the letters look more authentic and professional.

It takes time to write a strong nomination. The biggest advantage you can give your candidate is by starting your nomination early and giving yourself time to collect information, letters of recommendation and proofread. Good luck!