

## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Happy CTE Month! On behalf of the College and Career Readiness Bureau, we hope the spring semester is off to a successful and promising start. As you already know, in-person learning options will be expanded to all schools starting February 8. Many of you are probably experiencing a mix of excitement and stress as you brace for the change. We hope this newsletter provides both encouragement and useful resources to assist you this month. But if you need anything during this transition, please don't hesitate to reach out to our team members listed at the end of each newsletter.

Regards,

Elaine Perea, PhD

Director, College and Career Readiness Bureau

# THE COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS BUREAU'S CTE CORNER



## CTE BEST PRACTICES: CENTRAL NEW MEXICO COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*COVID-19 has certainly turned the education world on its head, but that is not stopping New Mexico educators from offering Career Technical Education (CTE) programs. Each month, the College and Career Readiness Bureau will highlight some of the creative ways LEAs are providing CTE to students during this pandemic. For February, we focus on Central New Mexico Community College.*

As the pandemic has shown, resilience and creativity are not only important, but they are often required, especially in our schools. Central New Mexico Community College (CNM) has battled through this difficult time in education by staying resilient and creative.

CNM's Construction Management Technology program continues to boom despite going completely online for the spring semester. Led by Program Director Eric Ghahate, the program of study is seeing high enrollment numbers.

"I've had so much in-person schooling in my life," Ghahate said. "I've had to be twice as prepared online as in the classroom. I've tried to create a structure where the classes are tied together."

Ghahate also mentioned he was initially concerned about the lack of in-person instruction, especially for some of his more advanced classes. But he quickly came around after noticing some of the advantages to online, such as the wide-variety of flexible class time (night classes for students working full-time or day classes for younger postsecondary students).

"To me, the studio was everything. With a virtual environment, you're not learning about your students with a 10-15-minute conversation after class. But my attitude has changed. I think there's a lot of value in online education," Ghahate said.

Construction isn't the only program of study that is growing in the midst of the pandemic. CNM's Film Technician program is working to keep up with the film boom in New Mexico. Tim Forest, who boasts a wide-range of experience in the film industry, recently joined CNM as the new Film Program Director last fall.

Unlike most classes, CNM's film classes are currently hybrid and still contain face-to-face components.

"Our face-to-face classes were working extremely well with sanitation, masks, and social distancing," Forest said. "But when we're not in-person, how do you substitute a 12-hour film shoot with something online? You really can't. But our instructors came up with unique ideas."

Forest said post-production classes like video editing have moved seamlessly to the online-only platform, since students can simply upload their projects on platforms like YouTube. However, other classes require more a more innovative approach.

**STORY CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE**



**“MY ATTITUDE HAS CHANGED. I THINK THERE’S A LOT OF VALUE IN ONLINE EDUCATION.”**

**-ERIC GHAHATE, CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM DIRECTOR**

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“For boom mics, I had everyone grab their brooms to go over how to hold their mics. One of my colleagues had her students use light bulbs from Lowe’s to work on three-point lighting,” Forest said.

Both programs could see different outcomes moving forward. Forest is hopeful the Film Technician program can create more in-person classes this summer. Ghahate believes the Construction Management Technology program will be mostly online moving forward.

Both program directors believe it’s important for instructors to stay positive during the pandemic.

Forest said, “Take care of yourself physically and psychologically. Be gentle with your history.”

“Don’t worry about making mistakes,” Ghahate said. “Everyone is going through this together. We were forced to adapt so you have to give yourself leniency.”

**UNDERSTANDING PERFORMANCE INDICATORS: 1S2**

Performance indicators are the core indicators of performance set by the U.S. Department of Education /Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE). The CCRB set Perkins V baseline percentages based on data from the last two years submitted by each district or postsecondary. To help you better understand performance indicators, we delve into one indicator each month. For February, we will cover 1S2: Graduation Extended Cohort Rates (6 year).

**1S2: Graduation Extended Cohort Rates**

Numerator: Concentrators (students who participated in two unique CTE courses from an approved program of study, while attending grades 9-12) who graduated beyond their original graduation cohort (6 year).



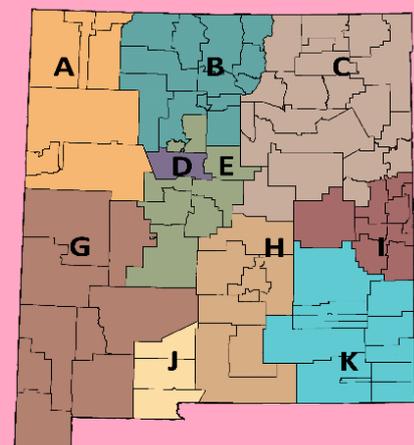
Denominator: Concentrators who were used in the Assessment Extended (6year) Cohort graduation count

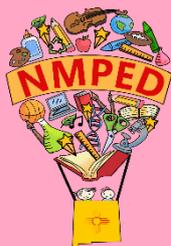
Statewide extended graduation rates CTE Concentrator Extended (6 year) Cohort 2020
Male – 95%
Female – 95%
African American – 94%
Asian – 100%
Caucasian – 98%
Hawaiian Pacific Islander – 100%
Hispanic – 95%
Native American – 86%
Hawaiian Pacific Islander – 100%
Multiracial – 92%
Economically Disadvantaged students – 93%
EL students – 89%
Homeless students – 79%
Military Family – 94%
Nontraditional Concentrators – 96%
Single Parent – 55%
Students with disabilities – 91%
Students in Foster Care – 100%



**REGION FOCUS**

This month, we are highlighting Region D. It includes a single school district, Albuquerque Public Schools, totaling more than 29,000 high school students. Major employers include Da Vita Medical Group, Sandia Corporation, and the University of New Mexico. The occupations with the largest projected growth include Personal Care and Service Occupations (4,382 new jobs), Health Care Practitioners and Technical (2,387), and Management (1,915). In the winter of 2019, the following local economic and educational priorities were identified for Region D: STEM/IT-Computer Science, Skilled Trades, Healthcare, and Hospitality and Tourism.





## STEM, IT, AND TRADES HIRING BLITZ

PED, in collaboration with Department of Workforce Solutions, is pleased to announce a Hiring Blitz for STEM, IT, and Trades teachers with CTE licenses and math & science teachers with alternative licenses. PED will be working with higher education partners to deliver cohort training, while REC IX can provide mentorship if your district/charter prefers it. If you are interested in DWS identifying candidates in your area that could be part of this Blitz, we encourage you to work with your school leaders to complete this short survey:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScSlogELkvP07E7Y2loPb-AiktepW-lkhq47OowHRzi0-4NQ/viewform>. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to CCRB Director Elaine Perea at [Elaine.Perea@state.nm.us](mailto:Elaine.Perea@state.nm.us) or by phone at 505-469-3475.



## BIG FUTURE DAYS

Deciding on a college may be a little more difficult right now, but College Board wants to make sure students still have the opportunity to connect with colleges they're most interested in. College Board will launch its inaugural BigFuture Days, a regional series of virtual college fairs for high school sophomores and juniors to help them learn about hundreds of colleges while meeting with admissions officers and current college students. BigFuture Days starts in the West and Southwest on February 6, 2021. There are three more events through March 11, 2021. [To learn more about the free event or to pre-register, click here.](#)

## IN-PERSON LEARNING RETURNS FEB. 8

Last month, Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham announced her plan to expand in-person learning options for all schools and districts, starts as early as February 8, 2021. The decision to allow an expansion of in-person learning options was based on extensive preparations and protocols to assure student and educator safety. It is important to note that the final determination on if/when schools will proceed with in-person learning is a local decision and that schools must abide by tribal public health orders.

Resources:

- [You can find a list of FAQs in English](#) and [Spanish](#)
- [The reentry website](#) has been updated to reflect the expanded allowances to in-person learning
- [Memo regarding vaccines](#) from Secretary Ryan Stewart

## CTE FUNDING & APPLICATION WORKSHOP

The College and Career Readiness Bureau is pleased to announce we are hosting the "Career Technical Education Funding & Application Workshop" on March 2-4, 2021. There will be a number of presentations addressing questions and concerns about CTE programs. R. Keeth Matheny will deliver the keynote titled "Social-Emotional Learning for CTE Students". More information, along with a registration link, will be released soon. [View the "Save the Date" here.](#)

## NM SCHOOL COUNSELORS CONFERENCE

The 2021 New Mexico School Counselors' Virtual Conference, *Preparing Students for the Future of Work*, is Thursday, February 25, 2021. Please encourage your school counseling staff to attend this important event! The one-day conference will include keynote speaker **Bill Daggett**, Founder of International Center for Leadership in Education, on "Preparing Students for Their Future, NOT Our Past." After the keynote session, breakout sessions will be offered through 2:50 p.m. While many of the sessions center around college and career readiness, a variety of sessions on other topics will be offered, including:

- New Mexico's Social Emotional Learning Framework
- Next Step Plans: How to Make Them More Useful
- Attendance Success Act Intervention Strategies
- Early Warning System
- Adjustments for Seniors

To view the schedule of sessions and learn more about the day, click [HERE](#). **There is no cost to attend this conference.** To register, click [HERE](#).

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT REMINDERS



The New Mexico Public Education Department is pleased to announce virtual Spring AP Workshops on Friday, March 5 and Wednesday, March 10, from 1-4 p.m. for current and prospective AP teachers and AP Coordinators. Featured keynote speakers include Andrew Sharos and Adam Fletcher. Plus, there are more than a dozen breakout options over the two days led by New Mexico teachers, College Board representatives, and others. Educators may register for one or both sessions. All New Mexico educators are welcome to attend these free workshops, so please share this invitation with your colleagues. This event is hosted by REC-9 online via Zoom. [See the complete agenda and register here.](#) Contact [Alexandra.lutz@state.nm.us](mailto:Alexandra.lutz@state.nm.us) for more information.

## WHY IS SPENDDOWN IMPORTANT?

Spenddown is an important aspect of CTE grants because it allows equipment/supplies, CTSO expenses, professional development, and career exploration to be available to students in the funded year. If funds are not spent by June 30, 2021, they will lapse and be reverted back to either the Federal Government or the Legislative general fund. Susan Lucero, the Fiscal Grants Bureau Chief of the Public Education Department, added the following: "When the spending pattern languishes, the direct services typically languish as well. It may be an indicator that our students are not directly benefiting from the funding. If we as a state are unable to demonstrate consistent spending patterns, it does not demonstrate to our state legislative body and our federal grantors that we are in need of funding. As a result, future funding may be reduced or compromised."



## NEW MEXICO TRUE TALENT

We want to share a great resource with you called "[New Mexico True Talent](#)". The Bridge of Southern New Mexico developed analyses that break down the skills, knowledge, and abilities needed for a comprehensive and well-qualified talent pipeline for various industries. So far, there are reports available for [International Trade](#), [Aerospace](#), and [Digital Media](#). Each report gathered information from a variety of employers in the industry. Students, parents, and teachers can learn about job openings, average salaries, skills needed for particular jobs, and more.

## NM STUDENTS NAMED SEMIFINALISTS TO PRESTIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Two New Mexico students were named semifinalists for the Cooke College Scholarship Program. Agustín Leon-Saenz of Albuquerque High School and Yuttichai Sommala of Rio Rancho High School are one of 496 semifinalists across the country. The scholarship provides \$40,000 annually for four years of college. In April, 60 finalists will be selected to become the next cohort of scholarship winners. Congratulations and good luck, Agustín and Yuttichai!



## DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS EVENTS

The Department of Workforce Solutions and Career Technical Student Organizations are partnering together to offer interactive professional development trainings for students in February. [Students can sign up for the following free events:](#)

- February 3, 2021: "Why I Work" budget tool
- February 10, 2021: "Interview Skills – Pay the Bills"
- February 17, 2021: "Customer Service Skills"
- February 24, 2021: "Work Permits and Youth Labor Laws"

## CANCER UNWRAPPED TEEN WRITING CONTEST

Do you know a student who has survived cancer or has watched a loved one battle cancer? Cancer Pathways wants to hear from them! The "Cancer Unwrapped Teen Writing Contest" opens a dialogue with teens about their emotions and realities when dealing with cancer. It encourages teens to write about their experiences for the opportunity to win one of several \$1,000 cash prizes. The contest is open to high school students in the United States. Essays must be 500-1,000 words. The deadline is March 14, 2021. If you know a student who would like to participate, [direct them here](#).

## CAREER SPEAKER SERIES

Educators, if you're looking for a way for business leaders to connect to your classroom, Junior Achievement New Mexico has quite the series for you! The Career Speaker Series has returned, allowing business leaders to virtually meet with multiple classrooms at once. Last month, Mike Silva, the Co-Owner of Rude Boy Cookies and the Co-Founder of Albuquerque Tourism and Sightseeing Factory, visited with students over Google Meet. Junior Achievement is also looking for virtual volunteers. To learn more, [visit here](#) or email [Lindsay@newmexicoja.org](mailto:Lindsay@newmexicoja.org).

# SCHOLARSHIP OF THE MONTH

## Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation

- Eligible to children of Marines and Navy Corpsmen, Chaplains, and Religious Program Specialists
- Scholarship designated to students pursuing a post-secondary education at any accredited school—whether that be a trade school, career training school, community college, or four-year university
- Last year, more than \$8.5 million was awarded to more than 2,750 students (10% were CTE students)
- Deadline: March 2, 2021
- [Click here to apply](#)



## CCRB COACHES

- Alex Lutz, Region A
  - Career Clusters: Business, Finance, Marketing, Government
  - Email: [Alexandra.Lutz@state.nm.us](mailto:Alexandra.Lutz@state.nm.us)
  - Phone: 505-490-3648
- Barbara Armijo, Region D
  - Career Clusters: Education & Training, Human Services
  - Email: [Barbara.Armijo@state.nm.us](mailto:Barbara.Armijo@state.nm.us)
  - Phone: 505-231-6519
- Denise Ojeda, Region C
  - Career Clusters: Architecture & Construction, Manufacturing
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  - Phone: 505-469-1232
- Jaime Cherry, Region H & K
  - Career Clusters: STEM, Information Technology
  - Email: [Jaime.Cherry@state.nm.us](mailto:Jaime.Cherry@state.nm.us)
  - Phone: 505-469-6744
- JoAnn Beuerle, Region I
  - Career Clusters: Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources
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  - Phone: 505-490-3512
- Rick Schmidt, Region B
  - Career Clusters: Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security, Transportation, Distribution & Logistics
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  - Phone: 505-396-1257
- Susan Chaudoir, PhD, Region G & J
  - Career Clusters: Hospitality & Tourism, Arts, Audio/Video Technology & Communications
  - Email: [Susan.Chaudoir@state.nm.us](mailto:Susan.Chaudoir@state.nm.us)
  - Phone: 505-827-6723
- Veronica Sanders, Region E,
  - Career Clusters: Health Science
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  - Phone: 505-660-2541
- Louise Williams, Region G & J
  - Career Clusters: Hospitality & Tourism, Arts, Audio/Visual Technology & Communications
  - Email: [Louise.Williams@state.nm.us](mailto:Louise.Williams@state.nm.us)
  - Phone: 505-690-6577

**DO YOU HAVE A CTE EVENT OR STORY YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE? REACH OUT TO OUR COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR AT [CHRISTIAN.NARANJO@STATE.NM.US](mailto:CHRISTIAN.NARANJO@STATE.NM.US)**