

CTE CORNER

OCTOBER 2021

CTE BEST PRACTICES: KAY RUSSELL



It's no secret that more teachers, especially CTE teachers, are needed across New Mexico. Let Kay Russell's story inspire anyone—especially industry leaders—who might have an itch to become an educator.

Russell boasts an impressive record as the Allied Health teacher at Los Lunas High School. Not only did she take home the 2021 NMACTE Teacher of the Year award this year, but she has made a lasting impact on her students. In 2020, Russell said the school's nursing assistant program finished with nine students earning CNA certificates and was the only program in the state to complete its training despite COVID-19.

"The students stepped outside of the box and figured out how to train," Russell said. "They used ribbons, pillows, plastic tubs, whatever they could find at home to help them learn [during online learning]... Some of them were even willing to take a night class to keep the program rolling. My students were absolutely incredible."

However, Russell's route to success as a teacher-leader is anything but traditional.

As a third grader in Kansas, Russell dreamed of becoming a teacher. Instead, she elected to go to school for nursing, citing an influence from her older sister who was a pediatric nurse. Her passion for helping others led to 35 years of nursing experience, including seven years as an active nurse in the U.S. Air Force where she was stationed in Texas, Louisiana, and California.

Following her service, Russell tacked on more experience: home healthcare at the University of New Mexico, elementary school nursing at Los Lunas Public Schools, managing childhood programs in

Japan, high school nursing in Belen, and then working at a hospital in Georgia.

Eventually, Russell's path led her back to New Mexico as a high school nurse at Valencia High School in Los Lunas. In 2013, administrators asked Russell to help start up a nursing assistant CTE program.

"I realized the quality, responsibility, and accountability was not there for some of the new nurses. This job would help me grow the next generation the way my instructors helped grow me," Russell said.

To complete a successful transition, Russell began earning an 800/Vocational Tech license—which allows someone from industry to teach courses in their field. After four years, she completed a dossier to enter the second level of the license.

While she teaches rigorous programs for students interested in entering the health science field, Russell also knows there are some students who need to simply know more about the health industry altogether.

"I wanted to help create a pathway that would lead to better health care consumers," Russell said. "It's a complicated system so we created a health insurance class and a medical terminology class. My hope is that in five to 10 years, my students will know how to make better health care decisions for their family."

Now that the district is nearly 10 years into the nursing assistant program, Russell isn't looking back and is satisfied with her move to education.

STORY CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



It's difficult to believe how quickly this school year is speeding by, and all New Mexicans owe a great amount of gratitude to our CTE teachers for the success of in-person learning so far. Uncertainty has been the constant as we strive together to navigate through the pandemic, and Team CCRB has been so impressed with the fortitude of students, teachers, administrators, and industry leaders. As always, please reach out to us if you have any questions or need assistance with anything. You can find our contact information at the end of each newsletter. We pride ourselves on answering every email and phone call from the field. In the meantime, I hope you find time to read the articles and find resources below that can help strengthen CTE in your classroom.

Elaine Perea, PhD

Director, College and Career Readiness Bureau

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“THE BEST PART IS WHEN I TAKE THE KIDS TO CLINICALS AND I GET TO SEE THEM IN ACTION AFTER TEACHING THEM ALL YEAR LONG. IT’S AT THAT POINT’S WHEN SOME OF THE STUDENTS REALIZE NURSING IS WHAT THEY ARE SUPPOSED TO DO. I LOVE TO SEE THE FIRE IN THEIR EYES.”

-KAY RUSSELL, LOS LUNAS SCHOOLS

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Russell said, “The best part is when I take the kids to clinicals and I get to see them in action after teaching them all year long. It’s at that point when some of the students realize nursing is what they are supposed to do. I love to see the fire in their eyes.”

If you or someone you know is considering a move from industry to education, the College and Career Readiness Bureau highly suggests you learn more about the 800/Vocational Tech license offered by the Public Education Department. You can read about requirements and salary structure by [clicking here](#). For Russell, it is an endeavor well worth looking at.

“The first thing that comes up is the pay. But if you compare the *hourly* pay between a teacher and a nurse, it’s fairly comparable. For nurses, they work year-round. But in the education system, you don’t. Becoming a teacher gives you a nicer work-life balance,” Russell said. “The reality is that students need specific skills to work in critical jobs and they need to learn from those who have worked in industry.”

NMACTE AWARDS AND SOCIALS

Congratulations to the 2021 NMACTE Award winners! During September’s NMACTE Conference, the following CTE advocates earned high honors, including CCRB’s very own Deputy Director Bobbi Eichhorst:

<u>Award</u>	<u>Winner</u>
Business of the Year	Mega Corp
Lifetime Achievement	Bobbi Eichhorst, NMPED College and Career Readiness Bureau
Community Service	Centennial FCCLA
Counselor of the Year	Dawn Moore, CNM
New Teacher of the Year	Linda Modgling, Mountainair Public Schools
Educator of the Year	Jeff Waugh, Las Cruces Public Schools
Post-Secondary Teacher of the Year	Jason Hayes, San Juan College
Administrator of the Year	Milo McMinn, Central Consolidated School District
Teacher of the Year	Kay Russell, Los Lunas Public Schools

During the conference, leaders also announced a major change to the NMACTE Socials. Instead of individual meeting times for each division, *all* divisions will meet together on the first Wednesday of each month at 4:30 p.m. After briefly meeting all together, each division will breakout into different rooms according to their division. The NMACTE Socials are open to anyone (teachers, administrators, counselors, etc.), regardless of if you are an NMACTE member. The first meeting will take place Wednesday, October 6 at 4:30 p.m. Please save the following Zoom link in your calendar while creating a recurring meeting for the first Wednesday of each month.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81659039380>

If you have any questions, please reach out to Carol McAlister at carol.mcalister@carlsbadschools.net.



CAREER CLUSTER FOCUS: EDUCATION & TRAINING

Each month, we are highlighting the 16 different career clusters. This month, we will focus on Education and Training, which is expected to include elementary, preschool, and middle school teachers as the hottest jobs in the cluster over the next decade in New Mexico.

- **Most annual average openings:**
 - Teacher Assistants (786 jobs)
 - Elementary School Teachers (546 jobs)
 - Secondary School Teachers (505 jobs)
- **Highest median annual wage jobs:**
 - Education Administrators (\$84,220)
 - Educational, Guide, School, and Guidance Counselors (\$57,500)
 - Secondary School Teachers (\$57,410)
- **Top jobs for middle education (Associate’s degree, Associates certification):**
 - Fitness Trainers and Aerobics Instructors (\$22,440 entry annual wage)
 - Teacher Assistants (\$18,100 entry annual wage)

You can find more information on core skills, pathways, certifications, and more by reading our [Career Cluster Guide Book](#). You can view the digital version or order FREE physical books your classroom.



COMMUNITY VOICES PROJECT: SHARE YOUR STORY

Many students in our state do not have an adult to help them learn about all of their career options. The Community Voices project is creating videos to help students learn about real jobs in New Mexico, find purpose in school, and connect with a role model who inspires them. If you (or someone you know) would like to share *your* story with these teenagers who are planning their own career journeys, [click here](#) to tell us more about yourself. For questions, please contact Breezy Gutierrez at 505-231-5425 or Breezy.Gutierrez@state.nm.us.

COMING UP: CLNA MEETINGS

Attention all CTE stakeholders! The College and Career Readiness Bureau will facilitate Comprehensive Local Needs Assessments across the state this fall and winter. The purpose of these meetings is for all stakeholders to provide their voice for improving CTE in their area, while strengthening LEA applications for CTE funding. Each CCRB coach will host pre-meetings and an official meeting for individual regions (in person, we hope). In general, regional priorities will not change. However, if an LEA believes a program of study is not a priority and should be a priority eligible for funding, we will have a formal process for requesting consideration, which will include formal industry support letters. Please stay tuned for more information on dates and locations from your CCRB coach (found at the end of each newsletter). For federal guidance on why these meetings are held, [please see Section 134 of the Perkins V Act \(page 68\)](#).

CAREER-FOCUSED MATH CONTENT



Digital, interactive lessons are now available in Pathways2Careers! The career-focused content for 8th Grade Math, Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II is available in the P2C learning platform, and can be integrated into your school's fully implemented PED Canvas system. Digital lessons are identical to previously released PDF content. All resources are FREE for all New Mexico schools. Join us for one of our upcoming webinars to explore the digital lessons and get started:

- [Register for Tuesday, October 5, 3:30-4:00pm](#)
- [Register for Wednesday, October 6, 3:30-4:00pm](#)

For more information, please contact John Gabaldon at 505-396-1992 or John.Gabaldon@state.nm.us.

CAREER-FOCUSED MATH PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

All teachers who are interested in learning how to integrate Pathway2Careers (P2C) math curricula into their classrooms are invited to join MC² for three hours of FREE professional learning. Join math colleagues from around the state, improve your math teaching, and learn how to engage your students with career-focused instruction in 8th Grade Math, Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II. Join us for one of the following events:

- Saturday, Oct. 2, 9am – 12pm
- Tues/Weds, Oct. 5 & 6, 5pm-6:30pm

Each session is identical, so you can choose the one that best fits your schedule. Participation is free but you must register in advance. [Click here to register for the P2C Learning Session](#). If you have questions or you want to participate but cannot make these sessions, contact Patricia Carden at pcarden@nmsu.edu.

UNDERSTANDING PERFORMANCE INDICATORS: 4S1

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 October, we will cover **4S1: Non-traditional Concentrators**

Numerator: Number of CTE Concentrators who took one or more courses in which their gender is the non-traditional gender for the course



Denominator: Number of CTE concentrators who took one or more non-traditional courses within a program of study in which they were concentrators

State baseline: 20.1%	Multiracial: 23.91%
Male: 9.18%	Individuals with Disabilities: 21.5%
Female: 59.04%	Individuals from economically disadvantaged families: 31.26%
African American: 34.62%	Individuals preparing for non-traditional fields: 100%
Asian: 35.71%	Single Parent: 32.73%
Caucasian: 33.15%	English Learners: 28.15%
Hawaiian Pacific Islander: 22.22%	Homeless individuals: 34.31%
Hispanic: 31.26%	Youth who are in, or have aged out of the foster care system: 44.74%
Native American: 25.38%	Youth with a parent who is an active duty member of the armed forces: 32.17%

ADVANCED PLACEMENT REMINDERS



Fall Advanced Placement Workshops will take place on **Friday, October 1**, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. Current and prospective AP educators will learn from colleagues in the state and College Board representatives. We encourage teachers who have never considered AP before to come and learn more! [Click here to register](#). These workshops are hosted online by REC-9 and are free to attend. Districts may request reimbursement for substitutes (if needed by teachers who miss instructional time to participate). More information, including breakout session descriptions and presenters, and the reimbursement form, is available at the [REC-9 website](#).

If you've ever wanted to teach AP Computer Science Principles, College Board will be hosting a webinar so you can learn more. On October 19 (6:30-7:30 p.m.), anyone is welcome to attend "Bring AP CSP to Your School". The webinar will help you learn more about the course, its value and structure, how to teach it, professional development opportunities, best practices in course implementation, and more. To register, [visit here](#).

CTE NOMINATIONS NEEDED

The NMPED is searching for outstanding CTE students for the Presidential Scholars Program. The secretary will nominate a total of 25 New Mexico students; 20 of those students will be recognized using the standard Presidential Scholars criteria, and five additional students will be selected based on recognition for excellence in CTE. The deadline for superintendents, charter leaders, and high school principals to nominate outstanding students is Oct. 29. If interested, please using the following resources:

- [Read the complete memo here](#)
- [Access the CTE Presidential Scholars nomination form here](#)
- [Suggested CTE criteria here](#)

If you have any questions, please reach out to Beverly Friedman at Bev.Friedman@state.nm.us.

MOCK IT 'TILL YOU ROCK IT

Do you want to better prepare your students for job interviews? Participate in the Department of Workforce Solutions' [Mock It Till You Rock It](#) initiative! Here's how: pick a date to host a mock interview event at your school, coordinate with interested teachers, start soliciting volunteers from your community, and register your event on the [event website](#). Although the initiative will be promoted during the month of March, your school can schedule an event at any point during the school year. The Department of Workforce Solutions has also developed a variety of tools for schools to use including announcements for students and parents, step-by-step planning guide, sample interview questions, feedback forms, and more. For more information, contact Jaime Hernandez at Jaime.Hernandez@state.nm.us.

UNM PRESENTATION LATER THIS MONTH

UNM-Taos' Dual Enrollment Program will be presenting at a prestigious national conference. On Oct. 26th during the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP) in Florida, UNM-Taos will speak on *Expanding Dual Enrollment: Hispanic and Tribal Communities in Rural Southwest*. "This national platform usually selects proposals from very large universities and K-12 school districts," said Bonavita Quinto-MacCallum, UNM-Taos Dual Enrollment Programs specialist, who will be one of four speakers. To learn more about the presentation, [visit here](#).

SUPERCOMPUTING CHALLENGE

If you're looking for a way for your students to compete in a STEM competition? Look no further than the [32nd annual Supercomputing Challenge!](#) The program allows middle and high school students to come up with a computational science project and work on it all year long. The best part – schools and students can win cash, scholarships, plaques, and trophies! Mentors are also available all year to help. Although individual registration is closed, team registration is available through November. Proposals are due December 1st with the final report due in April. For more information, visit the [Supercomputing Challenge website](#) or email consult@supercomputingchallenge.org.

SAVE THE DATE: C & I CONVENING

We hope to see all Curriculum and Instruction Directors at the 2021 Virtual C&I Fall Convening! On October 13th, directors will come together to discuss topics surrounded around the theme "Gaining Ground: Accelerated Learning". Dozens of speakers will deliver their presentations on Accelerated Learning MLSS Deep Dive, ELA Resources, and more. The registration link is available [here](#).

ACTE COMMUNICATIONS TOOLKIT

Advance CTE and ACTE recently collaborated with CTE leaders, educators, and advocates to develop the [With Learners, Not for Learners: A Toolkit for Elevating Learner Voice in CTE](#). The toolkit provides state and local CTE leaders with actionable resources, guidance, and tools to ensure CTE learner voices are elevated and heard for the improvement of CTE policies and practices. Some of the resources include:

- A [rubric](#) to assess your commitments for engaging CTE learners
- A [worksheet](#) to assess organizational readiness to elevate learner voice in CTE
- [Sample focus group questions](#) for current CTE learners
- An [action planning worksheet](#) for developing a strategy to elevate learner voice in CTE

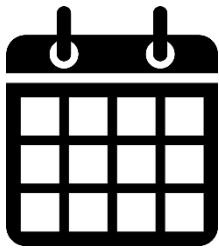
View the entire toolkit [here](#).

COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION SUMMIT

Teachers and administrators, there is still time to sign up for the 2021 Fall CS Ed Summit! The Computer Science Alliance will host the event on October 16th at the APS Berna Facio PD Center in Albuquerque. It will feature local and national facilitators and organizations that will be sharing their expertise to inspire and inform all that are interested in computer science education. If you are interested in the event, [please register using this link](#). If you have any questions, send your email to info@computersciencealliance.org.

DATES & DEADLINES

- **October 1:** Fall Advanced Placement Workshops
- **October 2:** MC2 Training for Pathway2Careers
- **October 5:** MC2 Training for Pathway2Careers
- **October 6:** MC2 Training for Pathway2Careers
- **October 6:** NMACTE Social
- **October 11-13:** CTSO Fall Leadership Conference
- **October 13:** C&I Convening
- **October 16:** Fall Computer Science Ed Summit



SCHOLARSHIP OF THE MONTH

Daniels Scholarship Program

- Four-year annually-renewable college scholarship for graduating high school seniors who demonstrate exceptional characters, leadership, and a commitment to serving their communities
- Must be a high school senior of New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, or Wyoming
- Must earn a minimum SAT Math score of 490 and a minimum Reading & Writing score of 490 or a minimum ACT score of 18 in each category
- Must have 3.0 GPA
- Must demonstrate financial need
- Deadline: November 13, 2021
- [To apply, click here](#)



CCRB COACHES

- **Barbara Armijo, Region D**
 - Career Clusters: Education & Training, Human Services
 - Email: Barbara.Armijo@state.nm.us
 - Phone: 505-231-6519
- **Breezy Gutierrez, Region I**
 - Career Clusters: Business Management & Administration, Marketing, Sales & Service, Government
 - Email: Breezy.Gutierrez@state.nm.us
 - Phone: 505-231-5425
- **Denise Ojeda, Region C**
 - Career Clusters: Architecture & Construction, Manufacturing
 - Email: Victoria.Ojeda@state.nm.us
 - Phone: 505-490-2160
- **Jaime Cherry, Region K**
 - Career Clusters: Information Technology, Computer Science
 - Email: Jaime.Cherry@state.nm.us
 - Phone: 505-469-6744
- **John Gabaldon, Region H**
 - Career Clusters: STEM
 - Email: John.Gabaldon@state.nm.us
 - Phone: 505-396-1992
- **Rick Schmidt, Region B**
 - Career Clusters: Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security, Transportation, Distribution & Logistics
 - Email: Rick.Schmidt@state.nm.us
 - Phone: 505-396-1257
- **Susan Chadoir, PhD, Region G & J**
 - Career Clusters: Hospitality & Tourism, Arts, Audio/Video Technology & Communications
 - Email: Susan.Chadoir@state.nm.us
 - Phone: 505-827-6723
- **Veronica Sanders, Regions A & E**
 - Career Clusters: Health Science
 - Email: Veronica.Sanders@state.nm.us
 - Phone: 505-660-2541
- **Louise Williams, Region G & J**
 - Career Clusters: Hospitality & Tourism, Arts, Audio/Visual Technology & Communications
 - Email: Louise.Williams@state.nm.us
 - Phone: 505-690-6577

DO YOU HAVE AN EVENT OR STORY YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE? REACH OUT TO OUR COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR, CHRISTIAN NARANJO, AT CHRISTIAN.NARANJO@STATE.NM.US OR BY PHONE AT 505-231-6236.

YOU CAN ALSO CHECK OUT PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF [THE CTE CORNER HERE](#)