

# CTE CORNER

DECEMBER 2021

## CTE BEST PRACTICES: ACE LEADERSHIP HIGH SCHOOL



ACE LEADERSHIP HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS RECEIVE OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN FROM THE SKILLED TRADES INDUSTRY ON A REGULAR BASIS. MANY OF THE EMPLOYERS HELP THE SCHOOL DEVELOP ITS CURRICULUM.

If you ask employers what is on their wish list for the holidays, many of them would tell you they are looking for well-qualified candidates with experience related to their industry—especially in the midst of the Great Resignation. Much like Santa’s elves preparing gifts for families across the globe, New Mexico schools are tasked with important goal of preparing students for careers. What better way to do that than by working directly with industry?

ACE Leadership High School, a district charter in Albuquerque, prides itself on hands-on learning through Architecture, Construction, and Engineering—hence the name, ACE Leadership.

“We need industry to tell us what skills are needed,” Executive Director Justin Trager said. “If we want to prepare them for the workplace, we should not use old standards. We need to know what skills, knowledge, and attitudes employers are looking for. We then implement that information into our curriculum.”

Trager and the Community Engagement Director, Matthew Salas, reach out directly to various industry leaders, asking for their input on the school’s curriculum. Most recently, UNM Orthopedics, the Carpenters Union, Sun Chasers, and the Film Union met directly with teachers at ACE Leadership to collaborate on industry-related projects for the upcoming trimester.

“Often times, this isn’t just a one-time collaboration,” according to Trager. “Depending on their availability, some of the industry partners will come into the school to work with students once a week, every few weeks, or will help us judge competitions at the school. It’s a true partnership.”

For Trager and Salas, it is important to not only develop their current relationships with industry, but also create new ones. They are always on the search for employers on the rise in New Mexico’s every-changing economy. For example, ACE Leadership is currently working with two carpenters from Fortis Construction, which is a major player in the construction of the Facebook Data Center in Los Lunas.

“It makes the industry less abstract and makes learning more exciting for the students,” Salas added. “Opportunities with industry create high levels of engagement with the students. It helps them rise to the occasion because they can learn while getting a chance to network.”

Importantly, these partnerships with industry are creating long-term opportunities for ACE Leadership students. Some industry partners end up offering paid internships to participating students. In fact, Fortis Construction is developing an apprenticeship program so it can hire some of ACE Leadership’s students after their internship is complete.

ACE district charter also offers a capstone class to all of its students. It allows students to explore different careers by completing a long-term research project that includes hearing from a variety of employers who tell their unique journey for getting into their particular industry.

Trager said, “The ultimate goals are to get as many industry leaders involved as possible, to get the students valuable experience with industry, and to build up their interest so their career possibilities expand.”

## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



‘Tis the season! I hope everyone had a wonderful and restful Thanksgiving. As we approach the end of the semester, I want to express how thankful I am for the hard work everyone is putting forward for our students. Whether you are a teacher, administrator, business leader, or community member, it is not said enough—thank you! Ultimately, our goal is to better prepare students for their careers. While there is always more work to be done, our team is constantly encouraged by the results we are seeing in the field. If you ever need assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to our team listed at the end of each newsletter. Happy holidays!

*Elaine*

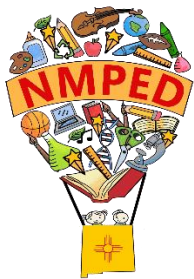
Elaine Perea, PhD

Director, College and Career Readiness Bureau

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## OUR TEAM IS HIRING!

The College and Career Readiness Bureau is currently looking to hire three positions:

- Career & Technical Education (CTE) Director: Job ID 10101917
- Career Technical Education Data Coordinator: Job ID 21391
- Financial Coordinator – Advanced: Job ID 21385

If you know anyone that might be interested, please have them visit the [State of New Mexico Careers website](#) and enter the job ID listed above for each position.

## SKILLED TRADES INDUSTRY ADVISORY SUCCESSFUL, MORE ADVISORIES TO COME

Dozens of skilled trades industry leaders provided input at the College and Career Readiness Bureau's *Skilled Trades Industry Advisory for Career Technical Education* on November 30<sup>th</sup>.

The Perkins Act requires Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment meetings with industry leaders. To make sure the skilled trades industry's voice is heard, NMPED hosted a virtual meeting to discuss state programming and collaborate on ways to improve the relationship between schools and the skilled trades industry. The meeting was recorded. If you are interested in learning about it,

please email [Christian.Naranjo@state.nm.us](mailto:Christian.Naranjo@state.nm.us). We will be holding industry advisory meetings for two more industries: Computer Science & IT and Health Sciences. The Computer Science & IT advisory will be held on January 6, 2021. If you know a hiring manager that works in the Computer Science or IT industries, [please have them register online to make sure their voice is heard](#). More information will be released on the Health Sciences advisory when available.



## CAREER CLUSTER FOCUS: ARCHITECTURE AND CONSTRUCTION

Each month, we are highlighting one of the 16 different career clusters. This month, we focus on Architecture and Construction, a cluster that is expected to grow and show increases in a number of occupations.

- Most annual average openings:
  - Construction Laborers (1,690 new jobs)
  - Construction Managers (648 new jobs)
  - Electricians (611 new jobs)
- Highest median annual wage jobs:
  - Architectural and Engineering Managers (\$165,130)
  - Construction Managers (\$93,440)
  - Architects, Except Landscape and Naval (\$75,450)
- Top jobs for middle education (Associate's degree, Associates certification):
  - Construction Managers (\$62,720 entry annual wage)
  - Cost Estimators (\$32,920 entry annual wage)
  - Electricians (\$32,810 entry annual wage)

## CTSO OF THE MONTH: SKILLSUSA NEW MEXICO

Moving forward, we will highlight a different Career Technical Student Organization (CTSO) each month. Since we are focusing on skilled trades in this month's newsletter, it is only fitting we start with SkillsUSA New Mexico, a partnership of students, teachers, and industry representatives working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. SkillsUSA New Mexico's framework is rooted in three areas: personal, workplace, and technical skills grounded in academics. Middle, high, and postsecondary schools all have an opportunity to sponsor their very own SkillsUSA New Mexico chapter offering curriculum, events, and much more. Any school looking to bolster their skilled trades program should strongly consider starting a SkillsUSA New Mexico chapter if they have not already!



**Website:** [skillsusanm.org](http://skillsusanm.org)

**Phone:** 505-224-4000 ext. 54205

**Email:** [info@skillsusanm.org](mailto:info@skillsusanm.org)

For a full list of CTSOs in New Mexico, along with their contact information, [see the Career Technical Student Organization page](#) on the CCRB website.

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.

## NM MAKES STRIDES IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

New Mexico earned high marks for improving computer science education access in a new report that documents all 50 states' computer science education efforts. Code.org, the Computer Science Teachers Association and the Expanding Computing Education Pathways Alliance, released the [2021 State of Computer Science Education: Accelerating Action Through Advocacy](#) this week. The report noted the following improvements in New Mexico:

- 44% of public high schools taught a foundational computer science course in 2020-21, compared to 32% in 2019-20 and 23% in 2018-19
- 63% of New Mexico high school students attended a school that offered computer science in 2020-21
- 28% of computer science students were female in 2020-21, a 5% percent jump from the previous year

Additionally, the report noted New Mexico made two policy changes to improve access, equity and sustainability of computer science initiatives:

- The NMPED developed a state strategic plan for K-12 computer science in 2021, [as found here](#).
- New Mexico is the first state to dedicate two staff members to specialize in computer science education. One position oversees grades K-8 within the Math and Science Bureau; the other position focuses on high school within the College and Career Readiness Bureau (Jaime Cherry, [jaime.cherry@state.nm.us](mailto:jaime.cherry@state.nm.us)).

For a look at the entire Code.org report, [click here](#).

## GIRLS WHO CODE

The non-profit known as Girls Who Code is offering the following free computer science opportunities for your students:

- The Girls Who Code Clubs program for 3-12<sup>th</sup> graders provides educators with free coding curriculum, resources, and training. [Sign up here for access](#).
- The virtual Girls Who Code Summer programs offer introductory or advanced computer science courses for 9-12<sup>th</sup> grade girls and non-binary students to get an inside look into tech careers through company partners like YumBrands and Bank of America. [Fill out an interest form to be the first to know when the application goes live mid-January 2022](#).

## PATHWAY2CAREERS UPDATES



1. The Careers2Communities program includes robust career exploration resources that help students learn about their post-secondary options, hear from real New Mexicans across the state in a variety of high-value jobs, and plan their own career pathway that aligns with the needs of area employers. All resources are free to all schools in New Mexico. Get started today at <https://www.careers2communities.com/community-connection/>. For more information, contact Ricky Williams at 865-328-6488 or [ricky@ns4ed.com](mailto:ricky@ns4ed.com).
2. The start of a new semester is the perfect time to assign the P2C Middle of the Year assessment. All Pathway2Careers courses (8<sup>th</sup> grade math, Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II) include 30-question, standards-aligned assessments for the Beginning, Middle and End of Year, providing an objective Quantile measurement. A few benefits of sequenced assessments include:
  - pinpoint skills gaps for planning your accelerated learning
  - show growth in your classroom
  - help you differentiate instruction
  - allow students to see their math skills in context of the math demands of various careers
 All P2C assessments are free, and teachers may use these formative assessments even if they are not using the P2C curriculum. [Get started here](#). For more information about how to use P2C assessments, contact John at 505-396-1992 or [John.Gabaldon@state.nm.us](mailto:John.Gabaldon@state.nm.us).
3. Educators interested in implementing Pathway2Careers math curricula are invited to attend professional learning with MC2. This 2-hour session will provide an overview of the resources, help you integrate them into your classroom and improve your teaching. Select one of the following dates and sign up:
  1. Jan 20, 2022, 4:30-6:30pm. [Click here to register](#).
  2. Feb 23, 2022, 4:30-6:30pm. [Click here to register](#).
 You must register in advance for professional learning. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with instructions for joining the meeting. [Sign Up](#) to be informed of additional professional learning events throughout the spring semester.
4. Attention all teachers currently accessing Pathway2Careers through Canvas: P2C is getting a facelift! The new and improved site has all of the materials you love to use, plus much more. The P2C learning platform may be accessed directly, or via your district's full Canvas instance. Be sure and create your account before January so you don't lose access to the P2C materials. [Watch for resource updates](#) providing guidance on your Canvas implementation.

## UNDERSTANDING PERFORMANCE INDICATORS: 5S2 (CTE COLLEGE DUAL CREDIT)

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 November, we will cover **5S2: CTE College Dual Credit**.

**Numerator:** Number of CTE concentrators who graduated in the reporting year and enrolled in a CTE dual credit course in the program in which they are concentrating



**Denominator:** Number of CTE concentrators who graduated in the reporting year

<b>State baseline: 31.81%</b>	Multiracial: 25.42%
Male: 30.07%	Individuals with disabilities: 27.33%
Female: 33.55%	Individuals from economically-disadvantaged families: 32.39%
African American: 32.61%	Individuals preparing for non-traditional fields: 35.6%
Asian: 18.87%	Single parent: 29.63%
Caucasian: 36.9%	English learners: 27.46%
Hawaiian Pacific Islander: 27.7%	Homeless individuals: 30.07%
Hispanic: 29.03%	Youth who are in, or have aged out of, the foster care system: 40%
Native American: 37.73%	Youth with a parent who is an active duty member of the armed forces: 29.91%



## CENTENNIAL STUDENTS MAKE STRONG IMPRESSION AT FFA CONVENTION

A group of students from Centennial High School made an impressive appearance at the National FFA Convention and Expo this year. The team of Faith Leal, Serenity Leal, Natalia Molinar, and M'Kenna Price earned 8<sup>th</sup> place overall at the event in Indianapolis, Indiana for Food Science and Technology. Faith Leal received a gold rating and was the 7<sup>th</sup> overall individual. The remaining students each received a silver rating. The competition tested the students' knowledge of food science and their ability to apply the knowledge to practical situations. "I could not be more proud of this group of young women," Centennial FFA advisor Cassie Goff said. "They dedicated so much time and energy to this team and each other during the pandemic. It looks like their time paid off." Congratulations, Centennial High School!



## WHAT'S GOING ON WITH ADVANCED PLACEMENT?

**PSAT/NMSQT Score Reports are Ready!** If your school administered the PSAT/NMSQT in October, score reports are ready for students, families and educators. These roadmaps not only break down scores for reading, writing, language and math, they also reveal student strengths, such as AP courses students are ready for, as well as areas where they can grow before taking the SAT. *Students can even get a personalized SAT prep plan on Khan Academy.* Online score reports connect to resources such as career exploration, college planning tools and scholarship information. For access, contact your school's test coordinator. For help using PSAT/NMSQT score reports, contact Alex at 505-490-3648 or [Alexandra.Lutz@state.nm.us](mailto:Alexandra.Lutz@state.nm.us).

**Advanced Placement Winter Workshops:** Save the Date: February 2, 2022! AP Winter Workshops provide full-day professional learning for specific AP courses, led by endorsed College Board consultants. Winter Workshops are open to current and prospective AP teachers, and are free for all New Mexico educators. This year's workshops will address 10 different courses. [Click here to learn more or to register.](#) Send questions to Alex at 505-490-3648 or [Alexandra.Lutz@state.nm.us](mailto:Alexandra.Lutz@state.nm.us).

**NM on track for steady boost in AP exam participation in 2021-22:** Every New Mexico school offering at least one Advanced Placement (AP) course ordered AP exams for spring 2022, ensuring every AP high school student will have an opportunity to earn college credit this school year. So far, the 97 high schools offering AP courses in New Mexico have ordered 15,097 AP exams—indicating that 70% of students enrolled in an AP course plan on taking an exam this May. This represents firm improvement from the 2020-21 school year, which saw exams ordered for 66% of AP students. Students who score at least 3 points out of 5 possible points on AP exams are guaranteed three credit hours at all New Mexico universities and colleges and thousands of others across the country. "AP classes provide a challenging and engaging environment where New Mexico students get a taste of college work while boosting their skills and increasing their confidence," Public Education Secretary (Designate) Kurt Steinhaus said. "New Mexico families should be pleased that our AP schools are offering exams to all AP students, bringing them even closer to college and career opportunities."

## LEARN MORE ABOUT THE NEW MEXICO GRADUATION EQUITY INITIATIVE

The New Mexico Graduation Equity Initiative (NMGEI) is a collaborative effort between the NMPED and Future Focused Education to define and pilot a new project-based graduation pathway as an alternative to traditional graduation options such as testing. To help educators and administrators better understand the initiative, NMGEI is offering a blog catalog. Paul Leather, an education leader in New Hampshire, [wrote an open letter to New Mexico teachers](#). Also, [you can visit the NMGEI blog page here.](#)

## SAVE THE DATE: COUNSELOR CONFERENCE

Are you or do you know a school counselor? All school counselors are invited to the New Mexico Public Education Department's 2022 New Mexico School Counselors' Community Virtual Conference on February 23, 2022.

Details and registration information will be coming soon. For the latest updates, [please visit the NM School Counselors website](#) where you can subscribe to the monthly newsletter.

Let's make sure our counselors feel supported by making sure they receive an invitation to this conference!

## VISIT THE CCRB WEBSITE

Have you visited the College and Career Readiness Bureau's website lately? You can find up-to-date information on the following:

- Advanced Placement
- Careers2Communities (C2C)
- Career Technical Student Organizations
- Counseling and Advisors
- Dual Credit
- Early College High School
- Funding (Next Gen and Perkins)
- News and Events
- And much more!

[Visit CCRB's website by clicking here.](#) Questions? Contact our Communications Coordinator, Christian Naranjo, at 505-231-6236 or by email at [Christian.naranjo@state.nm.us](mailto:Christian.naranjo@state.nm.us).

## DATES & DEADLINES

You can stay up to date with deadlines and events on the newly-developed PED calendar! To learn more about the following events, [click here](#):

- **November 28-December 6:** Happy Hanukkah!
- **December 1-4:** ACTE Conference
- **December 3:** Lockheed Martin Cybersecurity Grant deadline
- **December 25:** Merry Christmas!
- **December 26-January 1:** Happy Kwanzaa!
- **January 6::** Computer Science and IT Industry Advisory for Career Technical Education
- **January 7:** Climate Innovation Challenge deadline
- **January 20:** Pathway2Careers Professional Learning



## SCHOLARSHIP OF THE MONTH

### Lockheed Martin Cybersecurity Grant

- Lockheed Martin is committing funds to support Project Lead the Way (PLTW) grants to schools interested in adding PLTW Computer Science's Cybersecurity course
- Amount: \$10,000
- Eligibility: Public and charter schools across the United States are invited to apply
- Requirements: Public schools that do not already offer the PLTW Computer Science Cybersecurity course and are willing to implement the course during the 2022-23 school year and continue offering the course in the 2023-24 school year.
- Deadline: December 3, 2021
- [Apply here!](#)



## CCRB COACHES

- **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
- **Breezy Gutierrez, Region I**
  - Career Clusters: Business Management & Administration, Marketing, Sales & Service, Government
  - Email: [Breezy.Gutierrez@state.nm.us](mailto:Breezy.Gutierrez@state.nm.us)
  - Phone: 505-231-5425
- **Denise Ojeda, Region C**
  - Career Clusters: Architecture & Construction, Manufacturing
  - Email: [Victoria.Ojeda@state.nm.us](mailto: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](mailto:Jaime.Cherry@state.nm.us)
  - Phone: 505-469-6744
- **John Gabaldon, Region H**
  - Career Clusters: STEM
  - Email: [John.Gabaldon@state.nm.us](mailto:John.Gabaldon@state.nm.us)
  - Phone: 505-396-1992
- **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**
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- **Veronica Sanders, Regions A & E**
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- **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 AN EVENT OR STORY YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE? REACH OUT TO OUR COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR, CHRISTIAN NARANJO, AT [CHRISTIAN.NARANJO@STATE.NM.US](mailto:CHRISTIAN.NARANJO@STATE.NM.US) OR BY PHONE AT 505-231-6236.

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