

2017 WA-ACTE FALL SUMMIT Evaluation Comments



WA-ACTE FALL SUMMIT Strategies for Success: Connecting Education, Communities, and Careers November 2-3, 2017 – Great Wolf Lodge, Grand Mound/Centralia WA

Objectives/Purpose: Career and Technical Education and Career Connected Learning throughout Washington has received significant attention and activity over the past few years. The time is right for our community to come together to explore and learn about the exciting things happening across our state in creating partnerships, advisory boards, Work-Based Learning programs, course equivalencies, and how we can collaborate to ensure more learners benefit from the work we do. This conference is dedicated to all of those interested in creating options for ALL STUDENTS to have valuable and efficient pathways to postsecondary education for workforce readiness and participation and overall adult success. The conference will kick-off with an inspiring keynote presentation and followed by deep dives into:

- Building Strong and Sustainable Business Partnerships
- Building and Managing Effective Advisory Boards/Committees
- Building a Strong Work-Based Learning Program
- Academic Alignment to Support Course Equivalency Initiatives

5=Excellent 4=Very Good 3=Good 2=Fair 1=Poor

1. The extent to which the written objectives/purpose (see above) have been met:	3.41
2. Participant perception of relevance and quality of the conference:	3.03
3. The extent to which the following activities have been addressed:	
a. Opportunities for participants to collect and analyze evidence related to student learning.	2.77
b. Professional certificate standards.	2.87
c. School and district improvement efforts.	3.22
d. K-12 frameworks and curriculum alignment.	3.01
e. Research-based instructional strategies and assessment practices.	2.97
f. Content of current or anticipated assignment.	3.00
g. Advocacy for students and leadership, supervision, mentoring/coaching.	3.44
h. Building a collaborative learning community.	3.53

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- NC3T staff had great info but 2 hour-15 minute sessionsX3 were too long in 1 sitting for most people. More breakout sessions vs long sessions may be more beneficial. Thanks for all you do.
- More breakout sessions for various departments.
- 2 - 3 hours for a single session is too long.
- Liked presentation. Seamed quite long with little breaks...2:15 hours.
- Although the content was strong in a few "forced sessions," the sessions were FAR TOO LONG with no breaks, leaving teachers disconnected, bored and ready to leave. After being held captive for hours in a forced session, we now get to choose a breakout OVER THE SAME TOPIC. The format/schedule was not conducive to learning and engagement. The content was limited to about 2-3 areas and recycled into breakouts that were repetitive and uninteresting. Narratives not provided for sessions, speakers not identified for each session. Disappointing use of PD funds and release time.
- Coleen was very informative.
- Make it relevant to our small rural schools. More breaks. More breakout sessions.
- More opportunity to attend other workshops during this conference. Overall conference met my wondering, equivalency tool kit Review and Memorize understanding were very informative and useful.
- I can't remember a worse conference.
- Presenters need to learn how to teach.
- I could have been with my students.
- Information is way too general. Teachers want relevancy to the classroom. Large sessions were BAD. Need more small breakout sessions where teachers can choose, maybe something good.
- Just more offerings instead of the 3 long sessions which were helpful and full of information, but we don't have our students get great information for that long, we are not used to it either.
- The keynote was good, but the entire conference should have had a bigger variety of topics. Also with industry partnerships as a topic someone from industry should have presented.
- Maybe a framework session. Great format, just felt really canned presentations.
- Great opening speaker.
- Best PD I have had on Advisory Committees.
- Did not care for this year's format. Not enough variety of information.
- More small group opportunities would be helpful.
- Too long of lecturing.
- Thank you - more hands-on
- STEM activities please.
- There was so much information and great ideas. Very helpful, I'll have to look at all the power points soon.
- The main speaker was hard to hear.
- I liked last year's conference a lot better.
- I thought that this year was a big step backwards from last year. Too much sit and get and too much time spent on topics that weren't applicable to teachers. I would like to see more info on things I could use in class with my kids. I will not be back next year unless it resembles past conferences and not this one.
- Most schools struggle to even have advisory groups other than teachers. They can't afford to be picky about support from business partners, etc.
- I would have loved to see some actual examples of quality programs and a step by step guide to how they put it together and what to look out for. What worked/what didn't.
- Too many lectures about information we should already know. Missed the target audience. They talked for 8 hours about what are CTE, connections, aiming for people who don't know. Not helpful to lecture to large rooms. Stick to more program breakouts for future attendance.
- This was for administrators, not teachers. Huge waste of time and resources More breakout sessions and shorter keynotes, too much repetition and lag time would be best. Breakouts have been extremely valuable and that smaller group discussion provided much more valuable infuriation, networking and tools.
- Didn't apply much to me this year and the presentation method and format for the conference was not good. Having more breakout sessions and less large group presentations would be greatly appreciated next year.
- Nicely focused, brought full team.
- Q/A session with OSPI was extremely helpful! Thank you.
- Would like to have had more time during sessions to talk with my team and table. I felt we were cut off many times, sessions were long. We needed some of that time to collaborate.
- I liked it, great job. Thank you for the inspiration and new ideas.
- Morning sessions too long. Not enough breakout sessions, very disappointed.
- Some good information, but sitting that long was brutal.
- It is not ok to put teachers into a room for a 2-hour session for two days that has nothing to do with what we do. Very disappointed in this conference and it needs to change or I will not come back or promote it.

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- Very disappointed. Do not shhsh people. We needed more breakout sessions.
- Needed more breakouts and less large group.
- Very disappointed in experience. Way too much sit and get with no practical applications for people's daily teaching. Also need way more breakout sessions.
- Teacher of middle schoolers, some are 11 years old and how relevant is WBL to them, but I do bring in guest speakers in STEM careers. Long time to sit, 2:15 for this NC3T information which much of it doesn't apply to MS. More breakout sessions please.
- Format was awful. No one wants to sit and listen to someone talk for 2.5 hours without a break. Speakers did not consider their audience. Talks were appropriate only for people just starting a program. Almost everyone here already has these programs in place and just want to know how to make them a lot better. They could have learned everything they got from the talk in 1 hour not 7.
- More time for the breakout workshops that were really good. More time for networking to discuss successes of each district around workshop topics. The NC3T presentations could have been spiced up a bit. Have more workshops-breakouts.
- The long general sessions were too long and not engaging. Would have enjoyed more small group sessions.
- Large group sessions way too long.
- Really valued the Advisory Committee and WBL Review.
- Keynote was nothing compared to last year. Great idea for focus of the conference, but the entire thing could have been condensed to a 10-minute concise brief.
- The three sessions by the NC3T staff were too long. Staying engaged for the entire time was challenging. They were scheduled to talk to us for almost 7 hours. I would like to see more 1-hour sessions on a variety of topics.
- Felt like a conference for Administrators and District personnel more so than a group of teachers.
- Not enough session options.
- Main sessions too long.
- Need more detailed session descriptions.
- Previously coming to the conference, there were many more breakout learning opportunities which allowed for more relevant discussions with peers who teach similar content areas. WBL is informative but only pertains to a few teachers in my district (and others I would assume) since we have 2-3 teachers who coordinate for all students in our building/school.
- NC3T were very long. Maybe break them up and give breaks in between. Sitting for 2 plus hours was brutal. Also, the speaker not very engaging It would be better if the NC3T could be offered in a session rather than whole group lecture. It pertained to some people but the content was not useful for others like myself.
- Session on WBL was informative and helpful.
- Large group sessions were a little bit long, hard to focus for 2.5 hours.
- Advisory Board info was good but in breakout session much of the same things were said. (repetitive)
- The general sessions were informative, but too long. They either needed to be divided into 1-hour sessions or give participants more breaks. Many of the sessions had repetitive information from previous sessions.
- During the long sessions it was difficult sticking with the speakers. They had good points, it just seemed too scripted.
- Smaller breakout sessions really helpful.
- Sometimes the course names don't match the content.
- Just a comment: I was embarrassed that so many participants were distracted during our main sessions. Why did they come if they were just going to sit in the back and work on their phones/laptops the whole time.
- Thank you to the NC3T guys. Very timely and needed for my district.
- Get rid of the 2.5 hour death by power point lectures. Bring back sessions given by actual CTE teachers on sessions they've founded, ideas and projects. This should be an opportunity to collaborate and learn from peers.
- Love the location.
- Needed to do a better job of making objectives clear. This was not like past conferences providing great teacher info. This was geared to Director/Administrators and Career Specialist.
- I have been to several WA-ACTE conferences in the past. You provided shorter sessions and more choices. Adults need break time if you want to optimize attention to information.
- With the focused approach of this conference, I feel that I got a lot more out of the overall experience. One session built on the next, etc. Thank you for breaking into a different presentation. Change is good.
- I would have preferred more breakout sessions.
- The whole group presentations were too long.
- I needed more breaks. Even if they were only five minutes.
- Enjoyed the conference overall. I especially enjoyed the breakouts. I felt the general sessions were too long and not interactive enough It would have been nice to have had some more networking with other schools. But it was still good information.

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- Less seminar style time and more breakout sessions. More content for teacher daily use, sessions about specific CTE courses, robotics, STEM, Journalism, etc.
- Great handouts.
- Keynote presenter sessions were great just a little long. We needed a few more breaks, even if they are only 10 minutes.
- Seemed directed at CTE Directors more than teachers.
- Small breakout sessions were good, the other long presentations needed to be taught in smaller, engaging sessions.
- Large group sessions were too long. Please return to multiple small group breakout sessions. I did not experience much engagement, and overall, I found the conference to be "speaker oriented" and not focused on the attendees. Good session on High School and Beyond Plan. Quality handouts.
- Encourage networking w/teachers by subject area, especially for those w/less common CTE areas. Keep it relevant for all teachers.
- Limit length of presentations. The three long ones should have been one presentation w/regular breaks and participatory style. Too long too dry, too hard to stay engaged. That said the content was solid.
- As a newbie without an Advisory Board, I had hoped for recruitment strategies versus how to get the most out of the board you have, so once we establish a board, I have good resources for how to maintain that entity using best practices. The general sessions were way too long to be truly useful. I would prefer more breakout sessions where one on one conversations are a possibility to gain knowledge from peers on what worked and what didn't work.
- I strongly disagree with how the conference was run this year. Two plus hour blocks of information were way too long while the information presented was probably useful, the delivery was dry and from the turnout in the morning on day two didn't sit well with nearly half of the conference participants.
- This conference was not worth the \$300 paid.
- Very boring delivery. The content was relevant, but many teachers already agree and fight for what was talked about. Too long blocks for sessions. 45 minutes max.
- I've been needing this for 15 years. I've been doing this not very well this entire time.
- Two-hour sessions were too long, perhaps 1 hour or 1.5. Make sure information isn't repetitive. 2- hour sessions felt repetitive and presented same information just in a different way, nothing new after 1st 2-hour session.
- 2.5 hours in a large group setting with a speaker is too long. Please go back to a model with more breakout sessions with more workshops offered.
- Sessions seemed to cover a lot of the same information.
- Unfortunately, the main speakers weren't engaging and many people weren't paying attention. It was distracting since people were talking. I think the main presentations need to be more interactive and use other teaching strategies. The most beneficial portions were the breakout sessions. I was engaged and learned actual tips and skills I can use. I really enjoyed hearing from the math and science directors at OSPI>
- Allow for more practical application or time for table talk. 2.5 hours is a long time to sit and listen. The content/speakers were great, but it was hard to sit and listen for so long.
- I enjoyed the speakers, but the message was redundant.
- This could have been a one-day conference. Danise & Kim & Barb were the best.
- Great printed materials.
- Great information.
- Not sure speakers were dynamic enough to hold a large experienced group this long.
- Great information and resources. However, the whole group sessions were too long. The speakers would be more engaging with small group rather than whole group. Breakout sessions were very useful. There were several I wanted to attend on Friday.
- The content was good but the delivery was so very dry. Many left mid-way. Table snacks? Flatmo's talk was so good I went to his day 2 talk instead of the one I had planned to attend. All the breakout small groups were good. More of these?
- Conference needs more instructional strategies for next year.
- Much of the NC3T was common sense. I feel that personally, I become tired and my brain turns off after someone talks at me for 2 plus hours. The best workshop was the High School and Beyond Planning. I enjoy breakout workshops so much more.
- Would like to see bigger variety of topics and breakouts.
- Would like more variety.
- This conference was dry. I felt like the 2-hour long speeches could have been broken up into smaller sessions. I got very little of of this. Was hoping for better.
- The NC3T presentations were painfully long and not well received. Very monotone presenters. The length also cut into the number of possible workshops - believe this should have been done at a different time. You have branded this conference for years as a STEAM conference. Why change it?
- Great keynote speaker. First one that stuck to our objection.

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- I would have liked to have more variety. Some of presentations did not fit with what I am doing. It would have been nice to have instruction on how to incorporate advisory and partnerships in rural areas with limited opportunities.
- This doesn't fit the content of the conference. Work Based Learning not for everyone, waste for those that don't do it. Lots of confusion, poor quality workshops Thursday. Big school ideas, not fitting for our demographics. NGSS workshop, good ideas, too time limiting, didn't really accomplish intent.
- Would like to go back to a STEM focused conference. Teachers always had great feedback. Thanks.
- This was really good and important information, but very dry. Instead of 6 hours of direct instruction that was so detailed, I think a general run-through and overview could have been done in 1 hour, then have breakout sessions based on specific topics with advisory. It seemed like most attendees were checked out. A breakout could involve actually forming a committee for example. More directly practical.
- Make a call for speakers. Long sessions were awful, planned 2.5 hours for CTE teachers? CTE is hands-on, it was painful.
- Info was good but fairly basic and non-innovative. Too long of sessions.
- The two-hour sessions are too long. Would love to see Washington State examples. NC3T was good but we are so far ahead.
- Rooms too cold.
- Great Location.
- Great topic and main speakers.
- Need more breaks 1st day.
- The big sessions would be ideal to separate into smaller groups those w/advisory boards, those who need help starting or no advisory board. Separate WBL by pathway. It makes it easier to share "alike" situations/experiences/resources.
- Keep this venue. This is the only place where I will attend.
- Food was great. Mexican lunch was excellent.
- This change in format was a terrible idea. This STEM conference used to be excellent. There were so many good offerings in the past. This conference was so dry and boring that I just sat and did grading all day. I haven't met one person that is enjoying this conference. Bring back the STEM conference next year, NC3T's presentation were so bad! Don't let them buy you off again.
- General session, pre-conference workshop topics were great, yet the extended time in seat for a big group, better in smaller group. I believe the great message was not fully received due to sit and get, big time in seats.
- Spent a little too much time on weather in AM.
- Sometimes I forget how many people did not start off as teachers and there are areas that seemed sort of elementary, but then I remembered this fact.
- Perhaps there could be more relevance for schools that are more suburban than urban, with fewer local companies/businesses.
- And work-based learning sequences not entirely useful for middle school.
- Format was not conducive to productivity. 2.5 hours sit and get of basic info for all. Would have appreciated more breakout session with main speakers and specific areas. Breakout sessions were excellent. Where is evaluation for those?
- The small breakout sessions were productive and useful. Perfect amount of time.
- The large group sessions were too long. The material might have been receptive if broken into individual sessions of 45 minutes. I really wanted to leave, but stayed. When asked to talk with table people, interrupted by two speakers. Needed more collaboration with people at table. Less talk from speakers.
- Great info, but the wrong people attended this conference because of lack of info about the change in format (was expecting STEM). Would love to see this again with my CTE Director and Career Specialists encouraged to attend. Still got fantastic tips and relevant info and inspiration.
- The keynote was great. It would have been nice to have more time for him to speak and less time for the snooze team to put us to sleep.
- The NC3T sessions were full of valuable information and materials - activities were relevant. However, the sessions were too long. Perhaps break them up into two 1-hour classes.
- Full group sessions were way too long. Lost interest very fast. Need more breakouts so sessions can be offered more than once.
- 2-hours is too long to sit and listen to a lecture. More breakout sessions would be helpful.
- The lecture isn't what's best for students or adults. There was far too much talking at us and my attention was lost after the first hour and a half with no breaks. Please figure out how to bring us the content in a more engaging way. Thank you.
- Specific breakout time to work with Frameworks broken up into Business, Shop, etc. Offer STEM credits is a must.
- I was expecting a STEM based conference. Sorry.

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- It felt to me that this conference was set up for administrators and other decision makers. No sessions for classroom teachers. The title of the book says it all "For CTE, STEM and Academy Leaders". I will not be attending again.
- I learned how to help integrate partnerships and thus could be of great value for the students and those who are looking to go into the industry.
- The long general sessions did not employ good teaching practices and there was a lack of engagement and application. Separating into smaller groups based on experience with advisory and partnerships would have been much better.
- Should offer additional sessions during the Friday morning: WBL Session for those who don't have WBL V-code.
- The sessions with NC3T were way too long, they should be broken down to shorter sessions, an hour at most.
- I have been coming to this conference for 8 years, and this has been the worst one I've ever been to. I have recruited other teachers to this conference and have been embarrassed by how bad this year's conference is. Two solid hours, 3 times, is way too much sitting, with presenters that are not dynamic who talk AT the crowd and not TO the crowd. The content they address is relevant though and is important but needs to be confined to one session. The rest should be breakout groups like what you have done before. Plus, two-hour solid with no breaks is absolute torture. We are CTE teachers for a reason, because traditional "sit & get" lectures do not work well for us. Yet this year we have been subjected to three two-hour solid sessions, with presenters who lost the crowd about 10 minutes into their long-winded speeches. The presenters have no voice inflection and never leave from the podium. As teachers, we were told from day 1 to learn to move around and interact with our classes. The breakout sessions this year were also very lacking as most felt like they were only boring extensions of the boring two-hour block speeches. The breakout sessions in years past have been great because since you get to pick the session you want to go to, there is a lot more participant interest. The presenters need to look around the room and look for encouragement. Over half of the people are disconnected, on their phones or computers. And these are adults who love what they do but these speeches are not inspiring and are quite lack luster.
- The general sessions of 2-hours is really long, especially right after lunch. The first day was chuck full of information which was great. Second morning session really seemed too general. Not all of it applicable or realistic, too broad. A topic of WBL, too many. The last part with the specifics of creating a process for doing WSL/WPL was good, but the earlier stuff wasn't helpful.
- Too many long sessions - could have been fulfilled in one session. Great information, but too long.
- I particularly found the building industry partners part of the program strong.
- Would have liked to have more breakout sessions.
- STEM was dropped several weeks before conference and most of our 12 teachers were here for that session and would have canceled if this was known.
- 2-plus hour sessions with no breaks, not effective and hurt attendance for Thursday afternoon presenters, not professional scheduling, poorly done.
- Lack of communication about no STEM. My school district sent 3 teachers for STEM training. A waste of time and money.
- Advisory Board stuff, not realistic of some schools. Most of the information was good for new Administration.
- I do not believe that the major speakers (NC3T know who the audience was. Mostly teachers, not administration.)
- Two-hour sessions not good for classroom learning, not good for attendance, no breaks, not effective. Poor planning.
- The speakers were quite boring and limited to a small amount of CTE teachers who have V-Code to teach Work-Based Learning. I would suggest leaving the breakouts, so it can apply to CTE teachers and not just directors. Next Generation session was very helpful.
- Need more presenters like John Page. Quite a cost for few morsels. Now we are told-NO STEM clock hours?
- Conference was billed as STEM based. If informed earlier, I would have canceled or scheduled for Spring. There are more short breaks needed. The main sessions were far too long and attendance suffered for it. Sessions or small workshops would be more beneficial if there were separate rooms for CTE Directors and Instructors. A majority of info presented was geared toward large schools. The presenters didn't know their audience. Small programs felt left out. John Page was a great presenter.
- Received valuable information but I felt sessions ran too long. Most info could have been given in a shorter amount of time. Power point gave great info. Worksheets are a good resource but didn't need to go over line by line.
- Great conference. Second general session seemed to drag a little, and much of it seemed to be common decency and sense. Really effective information, felt good to learn and to share.
- Need more teaching content and less Advisory or Work Based Learning content.
- This is the first time I can remember much attention to partnership and advisory committees. So needed and helpful. Thank you.
- I've been to 9 years of avid, teaching and coaching conferences and this was way too much talking to us.
- It would have been great to have all health people together, all wood shop, all manufacturing tech together, etc. to share what we do

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- I'm new to CTE and I was excited about this conference and other CTE educators have told me how great it was the past 8 years. I teach health and had no opportunities to meet any other health educators because there were no content focused sections or really get ideas to use in general. My CTE Director wants to know what I gained from coming here and all I have to report is more about how you need a diverse group of people, businesses and more in your committee. I also have more of an urgency to do even more with career pathways in my health classes, but that is about all.
- I don't want to be bitter, but as an instructor, this was the dullest conference I have ever been to. The way in which material was presented was antithetical to best practices in teaching. This was not geared toward instructors, but toward administrative personnel. There has to be a better way/better material for CTE instructors, more content based workshops?
- What was available in sessions were relevant. Perhaps increasing the variety of choices for next year?
- I would have liked the long sessions to be more collaborative rather than sit and get. Even when we were allowed to talk, we were "shushed" right about the time we were getting into the subject matter. Good teaching practices would have been that the speaker walk the room, listen to the conversations and make a decision to expend the learning time or move on, monitor and adjust, maybe the plan doesn't work in real time. The breakout sessions (1 hour) were fabulous.
- Great information. Workbook. Am looking forward to implementing this information. Excellent facilities, good food, etc.
- It would be nice to have more diverse options for workshops.
- Too long of a session when you sit for 2.5 hours at a time. Also snacks between sessions would be welcome.
- This felt like more of a networking event and should have been better aligned with that. In the beginning by asking attendees to sit with their respective cluster to meet and hear more relevant details that can be applied. Lots of repeated info without achievable next steps. Most valuable session was Sumner/Bonny Lake Coalition.
- Very little applied to Middle School.
- This conference was the first on Advisory and hope we keep having these. WBL is a great way to teach kids.
- The two sessions on Business Partnerships and Advisory Boards (2.4 hours each) were too damned long. Lecture, lecture, lecture, don't do that again. I want more small breakout groups like was done in past with the teachers sharing best practices. If this is the standard for the future, I will not be attending again. Did you notice all of the 1,000-yard stares in the room?
- Cell phone apps. I understand that the vast majority of people have smart phones, but yet some of us don't. If you want us to view agendas or materials via apps, at least give us an option to view these items on our computers. Sorry to be an old plug, but some of us prefer not-to-be wired into everything. Friday, another very long lecture. If these guys tried this teaching method in my CTE classes, my students would eat them alive.
- Very informative and helpful to implement WBL into our school.
- I was not overly impressed with the afternoon whole group presenter. I was interested in the topic of Advisory Boards, but I felt the presenter talked down about teachers. This could have been addressed better. I did really enjoy the math breakout. Anne did a great job on showing new ways to teach.
- Overall, the conference was informative and inspiring. However, the morning blocks were too long. 2 hours and 15 minutes is a long time to sit and listen.
- Long full group sessions were kind of a dud, would prefer short full group sessions like TED with longer (1 hour) breakouts if we reverse the "summit" format. 30 minutes or less per speaker in big group rooms, rotate speaker/topic more often.
- The breakout sessions were helpful, informative and actionable. The keynote speakers were not. They took 30 minutes of content and stretched it to 6 hours. They also didn't seem to notice over half the audience walk out of their presentations. They need to do more than talk to us.
- Two hours is too long for sessions. The content should have been delivered in no sections longer than 1 hour. We thought it would be presented in a different format, we thought it would be more breakout sessions. Possibly this was an error on our part. We seemed to have an over focus on Advisory Boards, the information became repetitive.
- Good information about Employer, Advisor, Work Based Learning.
- So much great information that the 1-hour sessions could have been longer to allow participants to delve in.
- Thank you. This was the most engaged I've been for a long time.
- Was disappointed with the NC3T presentations. The breakout sessions were great. Much prefer format that was used in the past. Prefer instruction in smaller intimate sessions than the one-size- fits-all NC3T presentations. Realize that the objectives of conference limited breakout sessions.
- Good job on the WBL. I do miss having STEM information.
- Breakout sessions are more beneficial.
- 3-hours straight with no breaks, that is not how we are told to teach multiple intelligence.
- Too bad we didn't get some of GWL famous snacks breaks, guess we got spoiled the last few years. This was good for business perspectives on advisory groups.
- Hans Meeder, great info.

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- The (2) NC3T sessions on Thursday were very long and a bit repetitive. I don't feel like all info shared was relevant for everyone since some teachers don't control advisories, their CTE Admin do. I would have rather had some additional session options during those times. Disappointed that "ELA Shifts and Close Reading" session didn't happen. It would have been a great follow-up to the earlier EL session.
- I was hoping for workshops on new and current technology I could put to use in my classroom. STEAM workshops infusing art into forensics, nearpod, Lego robotics, more NGSS, more options for middle school teachers, more anatomy and physiology. There were limited options for breakout sessions.
- Leave out "team meetings" many people come individual.
- Too expensive for time frame. I don't do WBL so main session was a waste of time for me.
- Always have STEM clock hours available.
- IT & Beyond Plan too fast, needed more time.
- Without a complete agenda I did not realize this was so intentional and with lengthy workshop on advisory boards, I would have brought at least 1 person from each dept. and had a true team here like we did when it was STEM. Very disappointed for lost opportunity for smoother transition. The 2 of us really enjoyed the Advisory Board info.
- The facilitators of the large group discussion were not engaging and didn't include information that was new or interesting. The time frame for the large groups were too long for the information that was provided and included too much "sit and get" - their key points could have been covered in 30 minutes or less and then participants could have had greater opportunity to network, share best practices and problem solve with each other. As we had conversations at our table, the speakers actually shushed us as we were engaging in solid conversations around the concepts so that the speaker could keep droning on in every group session. The small group breakouts were the best part of the conference. Not impossible with the quality of NC3T speakers they lost the crowd numerous times. Very disappointed in the quality of their presentations and presentation style. Even they seemed bored. They need to revamp. If teachers in our state taught like they presented, we would completely lose students. The final breakout sessions were excellent and we could have used more time on the CTE HSBP alignment - presenters were exceptional.
- Absolutely brutal. Who thought lecturing for about 7 hours was a good model? CTE is hands-on, what are the conference coordinators missing here? 95 attendees left in room at 9:45 and 100% of those were on phone, iPad, laptop etc. or visiting. Every session I personally most wanted to attend was in the last breakout time slot. Genius scheduling. If there isn't interest or need for conference, don't schedule it. No presenters doesn't mean fill time with 7 hours of lecture on topics everyone is already up to speed on. If there aren't presenters on timely relevant useful topics, cancel the conference. This was a colossal waste of time and money.
- Helpful hint: Hire someone with some training in continuing higher or professional Ed. to put your conference on and there are PhD programs in this. There should be consultants available.
- Keynote, very interesting helped create a good shared foundation.
- Building Partnerships, too broad, our personal needs are preventing us from initiating partnerships, so this time was lost to us.,
- Sumner Building Pathways, interesting, liked the Q & A part.
- Youth Apprenticeship, interesting as well. Wish they talked more about finding appropriate employers to partner with.
- Building/managing Advisory Boards, as a school that doesn't really even have an advisory board present, this was a waste of time. Maybe have different sessions for various levels.
- Work Based Learning Program, many of these sessions included practical suggestions, but a lot of these suggestions could have been listed on a sheet and had the same impact.
- As a first-time attendee, and school based partner for career access work, what I find most curious about these past two days is, the structure of the facilitation. I think this was a missed opportunity to model teaching and learning in a CTE classroom, instead it was huge archaic blocks that are a counter model to CTE best practice.
- The agenda that we used to plan our attendance, changed and the material/titles of sessions were misleading. For example, "STEM Networks: A catalyst for Employer Education Partnership" was actually about marketing your CTE class and included one page or template for doing so.
- Overall, there were a lot of missed opportunities to demonstrate the innovation that is so key to CTE programs. Both in content and facilitation one more was missed this year.
- The structure limited choice and differentiation. With only 3 small breakouts, folks like me sat thru and tried to make connections, but the time could have been better utilized under a different structure.
- Hans was good a "setting the table" with his opening keynote. Brett was very easy to listen to but most of that information was basic. A few gems in there. Tom was not so good, please give people time if you want them to do something. If we would have even broken out into four groups in big room for 2 times and used breakout sessions to do the work it would be better. Way too much sit and get as was evident by the lack of attendance in the after lunch session. I understand you wanted to do something different, but you had a conference here in the past that was great. It usually showed us administrators what creative, forward thinking teachers were doing to take back to our teachers. It was really a best practices conference with an administration stand, I thought it was usually better than Summer WA-ACTE. How about bringing back the past schedule? Thank you for your consideration.