

WOVE

Legislative Update for Career and Technical Education

WOVE...Representing the Career and Technical Education field through advocacy activities, which promotes the value of CTE and the policies that are needed to support CTE practitioners, advance the field, and improve student learning. To subscribe to the WOVE Legislative Update or to view past issues please click here.

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Legislative Special Session May 13, 2013

The special session starts today! We know that the major focus will be resolving the HUGE differences the House and the Senate have for what our state's budget should be for the next two years.

There are no public meetings scheduled for the first day and the Governor will be holding a press conference later this afternoon.

NOTHING has changed or improved for CTE MSOC (Materials, Supplies, and Operating Costs) in the Senate budget. My greatest fear is that as the budget negotiations go on over time this single item in the budget will be used as a negotiating chip and we will lose CTE MSOC funding in the final outcome!

What will this mean for CTE programs in high schools around the state? The best way to answer that is for you to imagine what will happen to your program in the first year when funding for what your CTE department has available to spend for your programs and classes is reduced by 43%. Then, what will happen to your classes and programs when funding for a CTE FTE is \$266 less than a Basic Education Allocation FTE (BEA FTE) in the fall of 2014. It is pretty easy to see that students in your programs will be claimed as BEA FTE and your classes will no longer be considered CTE, and still earning \$281 less than they were in the spring of 2013.

So what are school districts doing? Here is an article that was both in the *Tacoma News Tribune* and the *Bellingham Herald*.

[Tacoma career, tech teachers face layoffs as funding vanishes](#)

Teachers in Tacoma Public Schools could be facing the first layoffs from their ranks in many years.

The cuts, if they happen, will target only career and technical education (CTE) teachers, and likely no more than 10 of them. But that's nearly 10 percent of the 108-person CTE teaching staff employed by Tacoma schools.

So what should we do?

First! Seek out your school district administration and ask if and what they may be doing to contact legislators and ask that the CTE MSOC issue be included with their requests and work with the legislators.

Second! Every CTE educator and the business partners they work with need to independently contact their legislators, especially your Senators, and then reach out to legislators that cross into the boundaries of your school district. Share your concerns and outline the adverse impacts you see happening to your programs, your students, and their ability to gain the technical skills needed to engage in the economy now and in the future if the Senate budget for CTE MSOC prevails.

Third! Share with your students, parents, and advisory committee members and ask them to write a letter to the editor of their local paper sharing what will be lost to them and future students with the loss of this funding. In the letter be sure to openly ask your Senator to return the funding for CTE in the final budget.

Finally! Keep this up on a weekly basis until we prevail! Throughout all of this please feel free to refer questions anyone may have to me (email tim@wa-acte.org or call 360-786-9286)...that is what I am here for...to pick up the details of the conversation and work with legislative members while you are doing the most important work of teaching kids and running outstanding CTE programs.

Please remember to use your personal time and resources when contacting legislators. [Member Rosters & Information for 2013-2014](#)

Follow what is happening on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for more timely updates throughout the special session!

This *WOVE Legislative Update for CTE* is being sent to all current *WOVE* subscribers and Washington ACTE members. If you are not a current subscriber and would like to subscribe, please see information below. All new subscriptions or current subscribers that renew will run through the 2014 legislative session.

Each session of the legislature is having a greater impact on *Career and Technical Education*. It is extremely important that *Career and Technical Education* administrators and educators stay informed on issues and bills affecting *Career and Technical Education*.

The *WOVE* Office offers a subscription via an informative and timely *Legislative Update*. The purpose is to keep you informed of the issues, bills, and committees impacting *Career and Technical Education* in the state of Washington and at the federal level.

As you are aware, the *Legislative Update* is your link to current news from Olympia of importance to *Career and Technical Education*. And the *Legislative Update* lets you know of appropriate actions that you can take to affect the outcome of pending legislation. It is crucial that we all work together for a successful legislative session. We need you to be a part of the team, be informed, and ready to respond to issues in order to improve *Career and Technical Education*. The costs of the *Legislative Update* will be used, in part, to pay for expenses that are involved in producing an update on a weekly basis and legislative support. Complete the form to subscribe to the *Legislative Update*.

Thanks for all your support. *Career and Technical Education* administrators and educators are crucial to our legislative efforts, and we want to keep you as well informed as possible on key matters that are so crucial to the future of *Career and Technical Education*.

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