Amplifying Our Voice: Leading Boldly for Our Students, Our Professions, and Our Union

How to Get There? A Map of Where We Can Start in the Path to Ending the School-To Prison Pipeline

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NEA CTE Chair
• Advocacy
  • Interprets and acts on social and racial justice initiatives
  • Leads public education policy reform

• Leading our Profession
  • Advocates for policies and strategies that positively impact our professions and the learning of all students
  • Analyzes and applies research to determine the potential impact on our professions and the learning of all students
NEA Strategic Goal and Organizational Priority addressed during this session:

• NEA Strategic Goal
  - advancing opportunities that will amplify the voices of all educators, and promote social justice for our students, communities and our nation;
  - securing a pro-public education environment for students, educators, and families
  - building the capacity of the local, state and national union to ensure the success of public education.

• NEA Organizational Priorities
  - Racial Justice in Education
  - My School, My Voice
Objectives to get there

- Show members what CTE looks like in today's schools and why CTE should be looked at as a success in education.

- You will have a better understanding of how CTE has a direct impact on the School to prison pipeline and can give students a direct path out of the pipeline they would otherwise be in.
Objectives to get there

• Participants will leave with basic points of information they can use to start discussions about CTE’s importance to their districts when they return home.

• You will understand that CTE can be included as a marker in the ESSA implementation every state is working on.
How well do YOU know CTE?

• Do you know what CTE stands for?
• Do you know how much CTE your district offers to students?
• Do you know how CTE students in your district do compared to students on conventional tracks?
• Do you feel comfortable talking about CTE in your school or district?
• 1- I’m new to CTE and really don’t know much but want to know more.
• 2- I know what CTE is but don’t fully understand it but want to.
• 3- I know CTE and understand it but am not sure how it relates to the School to prison pipeline.
• 4- I know exactly what CTE is and want to better use it to help my students avoid the School to prison pipeline.
How well does your district do CTE for its students?

1- We don’t offer CTE classes
2- We have a couple basic CTE classes
3- We send our students to a CTE center
4- My district runs the area CTE center
When you hear CTE what do you think of?
The real face of CTE in today's schools

This is Antoine
• Antoine was from the public housing section of North St Louis City then moved to the “state streets” in section 8 housing.

• His dad is a janitor and mom worked various jobs.

• In the last 6 months SLMPD has responded to 4268 calls within 2.5 miles of his current house. Including 151 violent crimes with 12 homicides.
Antoine was the type of kid who had a very limited future in his situation by all estimates. He was by all definition prime to enter the School to Prison Pipeline. Would any of you disagree?
Today's CTE is designed for today's students.
Today's CTE is designed for today's students.

#notyourparentsCTE
According to ACTE the average high school graduation rate for students concentrating in CTE programs is 93%, compared to an average national graduation rate of 80%. 91% of high school graduates who earned 2-3 CTE credits enrolled in college.
• CTE enables those students who we typically see slip through the cracks a chance to succeed.

• CTE allows an opportunity for those hands on learners to see the real world application for what they are learning in real time.
• We have to start with a change at the educational level.

• How many of you have spent years telling your students that they need to go to college? We need to change the attitudes of counselors in both High School and Middle School.

• Why do we do this?
Counselors are driving good students away every day!
Counselors are driving good students away every day!
• 4 year college  $80,620
with an average starting salary of $50,390

• The average technical school education cost $33,000
with an average starting salary of $40,000
After graduating high school, only 14 percent of low-SES students received a bachelor’s or higher degree within eight years compared to 29 percent of middle-income students.

According to the National Center for Education Statistics.
Figure 1. Median annual incomes for incarcerated people prior to incarceration and non-incarcerated people ages 27-42, in 2014 dollars, by race/ethnicity and gender. According to a Prison Policy Initiative study.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Incarcerated people (prior to incarceration)</th>
<th>Non-incarcerated people</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Men</td>
<td>Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>$19,650</td>
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<tr>
<td>White</td>
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<td>$15,480</td>
</tr>
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</table>
In 2016 we passed NBI-B that focused on the School to prison pipeline.

The school-to-prison policy statement called attention to policies and practices that push many students out of public schools and into the juvenile and criminal justice systems.
In 2015 NPR reported that 40% of prisoners did not have a high school diploma and only 16% of state prisoners had a high school diploma.
Inmate education levels

C - some College
HS - HS diploma or GED
DO - Drop out
NPR went on to report that, if an individual participates in any type of correctional education program — whether it be adult basic ed, GED preparation, college education or vocational training — they had a 13 percentage point reduction in their risk of being re-incarcerated.

Imagine if we could reach these students before they enter the penal system!
CTE provides an opportunity out of this cycle.

This is Antoine
Remember him?
• Antoine was from the public housing section of North St Louis City then moved to the “state streets”.

• His dad is a janitor and mom worked various jobs.

• He participated in the Voluntary Transfer program.

• He then chose to come to tech for Fire and EMT
After 2 years at tech he graduated on time
He is a certified Missouri EMT working for a local ambulance service

He is a state certified Firefighter with both his state Hazardous Materials Awareness and operations Certifications

He has over 10 other certifications from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

And a strong personal story
CTE makes a difference in students lives everyday. It reaches those students who might fall through the cracks.
• Become a CTE advocate!
  • Visit a CTE class or center and see it in action.
  • Talk to your co-workers about why CTE is important and how it will help students in your district.
  • Advocate about Career education as an alternative to a 4 year education, don’t stigmatize it.
  • Work with your administrators, BOE and other resources to look for CTE opportunities.

We are the experts in our students education and we can lead the way to make their education even better.
• Did you know that CTE is an indicator in the new ESSA plan? And ESSA requires teachers have a voice in the plan My school My voice.

• Every district is focused on increasing HS graduation rates our studies show CTE does this.

• College and Career readiness is important and CTE makes graduates both

• Your State Department of Ed has CTE as a focus for your state and district.
• There are state and federal funds available to help with CTE programs, including staff funding in certain situations i.e. Perkins Funding.

• Elected officials run on wanting a skilled workforce and here is your opportunity to grow one locally providing local companies a chance to grow their own workers.
Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.

Malcolm X

Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.

Nelson Mandela
I'm proud to be able to say my kids make a difference everyday.
QUESTIONS?
Everyone should leave this session empowered to do 3 things:

1- If you haven't been visit a CTE program or school see it for yourself! Then go out and talk to 10 people about CTE and how it can benefit your students.

2- Speak out to colleagues and administrators about how CTE can have a direct impact on our students who are at risk of falling into the school to prison pipeline. By providing real job skills that can lead to high skilled and good paying jobs immediately after graduation.

3- Share your students success stories everywhere you can! Facebook, ed communities, your school, district and most importantly to people outside of education.
• Please complete the evaluation for this breakout session by using the NEA Summit Mobile App!

• Please visit the Leadership Development Resources website at www.nea.org/leadershipdevelopment