



Virginia ACTE

Virginia Association of Career and Technical Education

c/o Dr. Brenda D. Long

VACTE Executive Director

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MEMORANDUM

TO: State Policy Leaders

FROM: Dr. Brenda D. Long, Virginia ACTE Executive Director
Jesse W. White, Virginia ACTE Vice President for Public Policy

SUBJECT: Important Documents Pertaining to Career and Technical Education

The Virginia Association for Career and Technical Education (Virginia ACTE), in coordination with nine other professional organizations representing career and technical educators throughout Virginia, has developed several documents that outline facts and figures, along with issues, pertaining to Career and Technical Education (CTE) in Virginia.

Issues and Solutions for Career and Technical Education in Virginia for 2016-2017

The enclosed *Issues and Solutions for Career and Technical Education in Virginia* presents critical issues facing our profession and particularly the students and employers of our Commonwealth. This document represents the key policy positions of career and technical educators throughout Virginia.

We ask you to consider our views as you make critical decisions on educational programs, budgets, and state mandates. The impact of the current reform initiatives must be studied to ensure a balance among education requirements for all Virginia's children. Career and Technical Education plays a vital role in the draft of the Profile of a Virginia Graduate and its related initiatives. The data in *Issues and Solutions* highlights Career and Technical Education as a component of preparing for the New Virginia Economy and a qualified workforce.

Virginia has taken a leading role in preparing secondary public education students for college and careers. In 2015-2016, CTE students earned more than 109,000 nationally recognized and Virginia Board of Education approved industry credentials. Approximately 49 percent of graduating seniors completed a state-approved sequence of CTE courses and received an Advanced Studies Diploma. CTE program completion leads to graduation, better standardized testing results, and college and career readiness. Consistently, over 98 percent of CTE completers graduate on time and pass both reading and mathematics SOL.

To ensure and expand Career and Technical Education in Virginia public schools and to contribute to the economic growth of the Commonwealth, your full support is vital. We appreciate your consideration of our perspectives on these challenging education and resource allocation issues. If we can be of service to you in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brenda D. Long".

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jesse W. White".

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