

VOLUME

70

ISSUE

01

WINTER 2020

THE REFLECTOR



Established 1919



Development of this newsletter was funded by State Career and Technical Education monies, which are administered by the Nevada State Board of Education.

Nevada Department of Education
Office of Career Readiness,
Adult Learning & Education
Options
755 N. Roop Street, Ste. 201
Carson City, NV 89701
775.687.7300 ph
775.687.8636 fax
<http://www.doe.nv.gov/CTE.htm>

Editor: Georgina Arze
garze@doe.nv.gov

Layout and Design:
Denise Snow
snowdm@nv.ccsd.net

Nevada Department of Education

Vision:

All Nevadans ready for success in the 21st Century.

Mission:

To improve student achievement and educator effectiveness by ensuring opportunities, facilitating learning, and promoting excellence.



U. S. Department of Education (USDOE) Tours Schools

by Melissa Scott

As part of the annual Back-To-School Tour, Assistant Secretary of Education Scott Stump visited schools in Nevada. Lake Mead Christian Academy, East Career and Technical Academy, and Morris Sunset East were the selected sites. Stump toured each site and visited with administrators, teachers, and students to learn what made each school successful. He asked students why they liked their school and if there were opportunities for work-based learning, noting that most students graduate from high school, and some from college, with no work experience. He stressed the importance of exposing students to work and

employers while in high school. Faculty at Lake Mead Christian and Morris Sunset said small class sizes allowed them to get to know their students and tailor instruction to their individual needs. Secretary Stump was impressed with the career and technical education programs at East CTA, as well as the opportunities students had to work with industry and/or earn industry credentials and college credit. Students led the tour and spoke about what they learned in their program. Assistant Secretary Stump ended his one-day visit impressed with each of the schools and the students he met.



Nevada's High School of Business™ (HSB) Programs Shine

by Melissa Scott

Each of Nevada's High School of Business™ programs had one or more students score in the top 10% in the nation on one or more end-of-course assessments. High School of Business™ is a national honors-level curriculum covering management, finance, and marketing concepts through robust project-based learning. Teachers attend training prior to teaching each course and participate in regular calls with other HSB teachers across the country. Nevada has 5 High School of Business™ programs.

Built by the Community to be Shared by All

by Anne Willard



In central Nevada, there is a place in Nye County where magic happens every day of the week. On

a work-related trip, my colleague and I traveled to Round Mountain High School (RMHS) to conduct a Quality Program Review of the Career & Technical Education (CTE) programs. Upon our arrival, we were greeted by Ms. Karen Holley, the CTE Coordinator for Nye County. Right away we knew we were entering a school, nestled in a friendly and welcoming atmosphere, where everyone knows each other as a colleague, educator, neighbor, parent, or friend.

As we toured RMHS, we viewed student work artfully displayed in the school hallways and classrooms. When we met with the administration and then the CTE teacher, we discovered this tight-knit community had built something very special in

the past several years. Ms. Heidi Tran is a very enthusiastic agricultural educator and through the ag program and the Smokey Valley FFA Chapter, the community has something special to be proud of and to share with each other.

In the agricultural education classroom and lab area, a student project really caught our attention. As part of the Veterinary Science program of study, the students are helping to solve a communitywide problem - a growing stray cat and kitten population. The students humanely catch the animals, who will get spayed or neutered for free from a licensed veterinarian, and afterward are adopted.

Our tour continued into the Agricultural Mechanics Technology (AMT) classroom and lab, where the additional skills learned are highly transferable to a position in ranching or mining. We saw properly stored and secured industry-standard welding equipment and more student handiwork on display.

The last stop on our tour led us to the back of the school property



where there is a newly constructed outdoor classroom complete with chicken coops, storage shed, rabbit hutches, animal pens, and a hand-washing station. It is situated next to the middle and elementary schools and although it was designed with the high school ag program in mind, it has become an all-ages community space for learning and growing. Ms. Tran teaches Agriculture Science I and II, Agricultural Mechanics Technology, Animal Science, Plant Science/ Greenhouse Management, and Veterinary Science, all offered on a rotational basis.

The agricultural and mining communities came together to support something special for the students and the townspeople by taking an interest in the Ag Ed program and by donating their time and effort.

Edward C. Reed High School Career and Technical Students are Removing Toxins from Local Water

by Noelle Castorena



Edward C. Reed High School Career and Technical Education students, from Sparks, Nevada, have invented a solution to help keep certain toxins from entering Pyramid Lake. The students were awarded a \$10,000 grant from Lemelson-MIT to build their solution by creating a device to remove cigarette butts out of sewer drains. This device will help so that the toxins, caused by the cigarette butts, won't end up in Pyramid Lake. The team found that cigarette butts are one of the most common and



most toxic sources of litter that end up in the Truckee River and Sparks waterways that can negatively impact Pyramid Lake.

Recently, the students met with Anthony Perry, the Invention Education Coordinator of MIT, who

gave them tips on how to make a presentation for their mid-grant review. They are currently raising the funds to travel to Washington, D.C., in June for their final presentation.

For more information visit: Reed InvenTeam's blog at

<https://lemelson.mit.edu/teams/in-venteam/353>

Sparks Tribune article at

<https://sparkstrib.com/2019/11/01/reed-students-receive-grant-to-fund-project-that-would-help-keep-pyramid-lake-clean>



President Message

by Chris Whitney, President

The Nevada Association of Career and Technical Education (NACTE) is working diligently to plan two conferences to benefit the state of Nevada. The first conference is the Association of Career and Technical Education (ACTE) Region V Conference. This conference will be held at Harvey's Stateline Casino in Lake Tahoe, April 22 through April 25. At the Region V Conference, we will welcome attendees from Palau, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, Guam, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, North Dakota, Nebraska, Nevada, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. We are truly excited to be hosting this conference in Nevada this year, and are looking forward to showing CTE professionals throughout Region V all of the amazing Career and Technical Education opportunities available to students within our state.

The second conference we are busy planning is our annual State Career and Technical Education conference. This conference will also be held at Harvey's Stateline Casino in Lake Tahoe, July 28 through July 31. The Call for Proposals to present at this conference has been sent out, and we are looking forward to the diverse presentations by CTE professionals throughout our state. Should you like additional information about either of these conferences, please contact either Craig Statucki at cstatucki@gmail.com, or Chris Whitney at whtnychrs@gmail.com.

National ACTE sponsors the National Policy Seminar each March in Washington, D.C., where conference

attendees have the opportunity to meet with elected officials from their states to promote Career and Technical Education at a national level. This year, we are happy to report that Nevada will have four attendees, including Craig Statucki from East Career and Technical Academy in Las Vegas, Jennifer Fisk from Northwest Career and Technical Academy, Maggie Cox from Desert Pines High School in Las Vegas, and Fran Bromley-Norwood from Cheyenne High School in Las Vegas.

Lastly, we would like to congratulate several of our members who have either completed their Fellows Program with ACTE, or will be participating in a Fellows Program with ACTE. Tamra Herschbach from the Lyon County School District, and Denise Burton from the Clark County School District have completed their ACTE Fellows Programs. Just beginning their Fellows Programs are Jennifer Fisk, Maggie Cox, and Fran Bromley-Norwood, all of the Clark County School District. Congratulations to all of these CTE professionals who continue to seek out new ways to provide the absolute best opportunities for all students.

Save the Date

April 22-25, 2020

Tahoe Region V **ACTE**
20/20
Perfect Vision for CTE

DECA Prepares for Competitive Events

by Raj Patel



On December 14, Nevada DECA members from all over the Las Vegas Valley were able to compete in over 21

competitive events at our annual Fall Leadership Conference, hosted by UNLV DECA. With over 7 chapters bringing 150+ members, students were able to gain firsthand experience in competition through roleplays with judge feedback and sit in on two amazing workshops from Microsoft and University Peak.

The state officer team was also present at the event, helping with the presentation of awards and running a workshop about competitive event tips and an informational session about state office.



By continuously supporting the Fall Leadership Conference, Nevada DECA hopes to continue to fulfill its mission in supporting student success in both DECA and their future lives. Thank you to all who attended the conference!

Sports Marketing Day

by Melissa Scott



In the last few years, Las Vegas has added three professional sports teams and two new sports arenas with one more of each on the way, making the city

rich with opportunities for business and marketing students to learn about the business of professional sports. On February 5th, about 100 students had the opportunity to tour three professional sports venues and hear from their marketing teams. The first Sports Marketing Day was a joint vision and collaborative effort by Nevada DECA, Clark County School District, and the Department of Education's Business and Marketing Education Programs Professional. UFC was the first stop of the day. A panel of UFC's marketing team talked about branding, careers in marketing, and how UFC built their brand. A tour of the training facilities wrapped up an informative time on site. Next was lunch and talks at City National Arena, home of the Vegas Golden Knights. Taylor Janison from the Las Vegas Aces Women's National Basketball Association team also spoke to the students about her job as marketing director of the Aces. The last stop was a tour of the new Las Vegas



Ballpark, home to the Triple A baseball team, Las Vegas Aviators. Entering their second season, there was much to learn about the rebranding and relocation of the baseball team.

The students and teachers had a great time and learned about sports marketing happening right in their community. Hearing directly from marketing professionals is sure to connect the concepts learned in class and create meaningful partnerships for Nevada DECA.

FFA Spring Creek Students' Research Project Places Second at the National FFA Convention

by Heather Dye



After witnessing the devastation of the Owl Creek fire in the Ruby Mountains, followed by the spread of invasive plant species in the burned area, Lindey Smith and Elena Petersen decided to research the "effects of the fire on soil productivity." They wanted to understand how the chemical properties of the soil had been negatively affected so that the land could be better rehabilitated in the future. Prior to the fire, the land had a diverse population of native grasses, forbs, and shrubs which were used by local ranchers for grazing, and by the public for recreational activities.

This scenario served as the foundation to the Silver Sage FFA students' success in placing second at the National FFA Convention in the Agriscience Fair's Environmental Services/Natural Resource Systems, Division 6 category. Before reaching this achievement, they first had to compete at the Nevada FFA State Convention in March 2019. It was there that they had to submit their research and answer questions from a panel of judges. They qualified to submit their work to National FFA; however, this didn't guarantee that they would qualify to compete at the 92nd National FFA Convention. Their research first had to be reviewed in order to determine if they would become national finalists in their category.

The duo became national finalists, so they packed their display board and flew to Indianapolis for the 92nd National FFA Convention, October 30 through November 2, 2019. It was there that they had to explain their research and, again, answer questions from a panel of judges. They displayed their board for thousands of people to view and learn about the effects of fire on soil as it relates to some of Nevada's native and invasive plants.

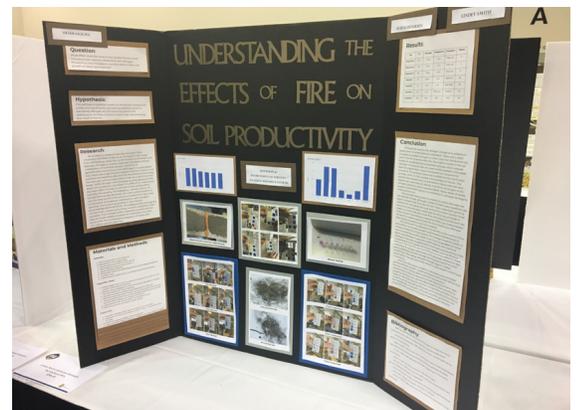
This project and experience helped them develop valuable skills and exposed them to a variety of career

areas. They tested the Nitrogen, Phosphorous, Potassium, pH, and Nitrate levels of soil from the burned and unburned areas. In addition, they grew Arrowleaf Balsamroot and Sandberg Bluegrass in the soil samples. These actions required the students to apply previous lessons learned, as well as rely on guidance from their agriculture teacher and industry representatives. As in any research project, they had to be precise and thorough in all of their actions.

They determined that the fire had an impact on the chemical aspects of soil. It released nutrients into the A horizon of the soil, making it readily available for invasive species. The pH levels slightly increased while the Nitrate levels significantly increased. They had expected the increase in Nitrate levels due to the increase in soil temperature which accelerates bacterial activity resulting in increased Nitrate production.

The students predict that eventually all of the pH and chemical levels will return to pre-fire conditions. However, native species may have a harder time re-establishing in the area due to the initial establishment of the invasive plants. Lindey and Elena hope that their research will help others understand the exact effects that fire has on soil and minimize any misconceptions that private land owners have about fire on their property.

The 2019 qualifying Agriscience Fair event at the Nevada FFA State Convention was sponsored by Drs. Dave Shintani and Christie Howard. To learn more about Nevada FFA and sponsorship opportunities, go to www.nvaged.com.



Upcoming Events

March 10-12, 2020	FCCLA Leadership Conference Reno, NV
March 17-20, 2020	FFA Convention Leadership Development Reno, NV
March 15-18, 2020	HOSA Leadership Conference Reno, NV
March 31- April 3, 2020	SkillsUSA Leadership Conference Reno, NV
April 19-21, 2020	FBLA State Business Leadership Conference Sparks, NV
April 22-25, 2020	ACTE Region V Conference Lake Tahoe, NV



The Nevada Department of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.



CTE Mission Statement:

The Office of Career Readiness, Adult Learning & Education Options is dedicated to developing innovative educational opportunities for students to acquire skills for productive employment and lifelong learning.

Jhone M. Ebert

Superintendent of Public Instruction

Jonathan P. Moore, Ed.D.

Deputy Superintendent of Student Achievement

Heidi Haartz

Deputy Superintendent for Business and Support Services

Felicia Gonzales

Deputy Superintendent for Educator Effectiveness & Family Engagement

Randi Hunewill

Assistant Director, Office of Career Readiness, Adult Learning & Education Options

State Board of Education

Elaine Wynn

President of the Board

Mark Newburn

Vice President of the Board

Robert Blakely

Katherine Dockweiler

Dawn Etcheverry Miller

Tamara Hudson

Cathy McAdoo

Kevin Melcher

Felicia Ortiz

Teri White

Student Representative

Rui Ya Wang