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August 2017 Newsletter



2018 CAACE Conference

2018 CAACE Conference

March 22 & 23

Mystic Marriott, Groton, CT

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March 2018 Conference!

As always we welcome your input, so if you have an idea for a conference session or if you're interested in volunteering on the Conference committee please contact [Heather Pelletier](#) or [Risa Filkoff](#).

CAACE Board Meetings

Our CAACE Board Meetings for the 2017-18 year are set and we are ready to go for another exciting year. For dates and locations please visit the [CAACE calendar](#) on our website.

We are still looking for a couple of Programs interested in hosting our monthly meetings. If you have the space for 30 people and would like to host a CAACE Board Meeting please contact [Larry Covino](#).

Remember everyone is welcome to our Board Meetings and we look forward to seeing you soon!

Career Pathways Survey Results

In May, CAACE sent a survey to Adult Education Directors regarding Career Pathways and what types of **non-mandated** programs were taking place. We received over 30 responses, below is a highlight of those responses:

- 53% of the responding programs do NOT offer non-mandated courses
- Of the 47% that do, the most popular are CNA, ServSafe and Home Health Care.

How are these programs funded? The majority report that grants and course fees cover the costs.

Does successful completion result in an industry recognized certificate?

- 67% Yes
- 25% No
- 8% Maybe

92% of Directors report that they are NOT a DOL provider for the course.

Do Programs offer additional non-mandated courses?

- 42% Yes
 - 58% No
-

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Advocacy

Budget talks continue and as of the writing of this newsletter no budget has been ratified for 2017-2018.

A surprising number of legislative bills related to adult education were passed in this year's session, despite the amount of fruitless hours spent trying to craft an acceptable state budget. Here's a quick rundown on these passed bills. More detailed info on these and other bills will come out during the next academic year, but here's a head start:

SB 1026 - *Revisions to the High School Graduation Requirements*

At long last, this change to current graduation requirements appears to have an actual start date, along with some adult ed-friendly revisions. The credit requirement will be increased to 25 credits, starting with the graduating class of 2023. The bill allows graduation requirements to be met through successful demonstration of subject matter content mastery, achieved through educational experiences and opportunities that provide multiple pathways to learning. The new law also increases the health and safety credit requirement from a half credit to one credit, beginning two years from now.

HB 5590 - *Creation of a Task Force to Improve the Workforce Development System*

This bill exploded from a small "study only" bill to one that creates a Workforce Training Authority with its own related fund, a "soft skills" training program RFP, "early college opportunity" programs to go with career certificate programs and "industry-specific advisory councils." The entire bill can be seen [here](#).

HB 5116 - *Public Access to Higher Education and Employment Data*

This bill actually repeats a law passed last year that requires all of the state public postsecondary schools to supply employment, job retention and earnings data on their graduates for publication by the Higher Education Coordinating Council. This data will help potential students make decisions about quality career preparation and program results.

HB 7207 - *Revisions to the Student Data Privacy Act*

The key provision in this bill extends to July 1, 2018 the date by which written contracts with clear regulations must be used in new business dealings with data handling vendors. Originally this bill took effect last October, when no one was ready. CAACE is in contact with some of our major vendors regarding these agreements.

HB 7271 - *Establishment of the Technical HS System as an Independent Agency*

There will be a 3-year transition of the current tech high school system into an independent executive branch agency called the "Technical Education and Career System." Overall, this bill seeks to transform the system into one that better responds to job market demands and the skills required by both students and their teachers.

SB 953 - *Revisions to the Professional Development and In Service Training Requirements for Educators*

The bill reduces mandated reporting by school districts on professional development and eliminates several topics currently required for teacher professional development.

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Students trying to map out transfers within the state public college and university system should be helped by this bill, which requires colleges to show what courses and programs transfer to and from their schools.

Bills Not Passed:

HB 7273 - This bill would have restored discretion to school districts regarding background check requirements for non-certified instructors of noncredit, adult enrichment courses. It died on the Senate calendar as time ran out on the session. We will continue to work to get this language added in other legislation.

Special thanks to David Downes and Judy Blei and associates for staying on top of all of this!



"Good Stories, Well Told"

Please let CAACE know about your efforts to keep Adult Education in the forefront while important funding decisions are being made. While you're at it, take a look at a new addition to the the CAACE website called "[Good Stories, Well Told](#)," which highlights news releases and stories that shine a light on our programs, staff accomplishments and advocacy events. We'd love to see additional submissions to feature on this site. If you have a good story just waiting to be told, please contact [Dave Downes](#).

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CT State Department of Education News

The CSDE Summer Institute will be held:

August 16 & 17

University of New Haven, Orange Campus
584 Derby Milford Road, Orange

Presenters include CASAS, NELRC, CSDE staff, ATDN staff and practitioners. Please note, the Summer Institute will replace the previously scheduled August 21 & 22 sessions

[Click here for more information and to register!](#)

Mark Your Calendar:

Fall Policy Forum
Friday September 22, 2017
Energize CT Center, North Haven, CT

CAACE Professional Development

Our Professional Development Committee met over the summer and are in the process of developing some outstanding, pertinent, and instructive professional development for the upcoming school year.

For more information or to register please visit the [CAACE website](#).

CAACE is proud to announce that we have signed on with Eventbrite, an online platform that allows event organizers to plan, promote, and sell tickets to events and publish them across Facebook, Twitter and other social-networking tools directly from the site's interface while ensuring complete security for all. This program will make registering for all CAACE events fast, easy and secure.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and we will see you in September!

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