

Meeting Notes

ACSA Council of Career and Technical Education Leaders

Date	October 6, 2026
Time	11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
Presenters	Mindi Parsons, CDE; Jennifer Horton, One Voice; Serette Kaminski, ACSA Governmental Relations
Attendance	ACSA: Naj Alikhan, Tracy Olmedo, Efrain Guizar, Rene Rickard, Serette Kaminski. Members: Lesile Marley (6), Jennifer Rockett (5), Karen Dimick (19), Jason Angle (12), Jennifer Horton (2), Lamar Wallace (7), Margaret Files (9), Christine Corrao (18), Kelly Birch, Lynn McConville, Lisa Rodriguez (11).

Council Purpose

The council supports high-quality CTE programs preparing PreK–adult students for careers and postsecondary education through curriculum development, legislative advocacy, professional learning, communication, and collaboration.

Meeting Summary

1. Call to Order and Council Business

Welcome and introductions were scheduled for 11:00 a.m. Jennifer Horton moved to approve the agenda; Lisa Rodriguez seconded. Margaret Files moved to approve the prior minutes; Lamar Wallace seconded. Both motions passed by hand vote.

2. California Department of Education Update

Mindi Parsons presented the following updates:

- **WIOA Title II:** The 2027–31 grant application has two stages: eligibility screening due October 6 and application due December 10, 2026. [Application and guidance](#)
- **Community Schools Partnership Program:** The presentation identified eligibility for LEAs with at least 65% unduplicated pupil percentage and 10 enrolled students. Opt-in is due November 1; an attestation, abstract, and narrative are required. [Program guidance](#)
- **Dual enrollment:** An additional \$100 million supports competitive CCAP and Middle College/Early College grants. Applications are due October 30, 2026. [Grant resources](#)
- **College/Career Indicator:** New WBL components include internships, student-led enterprises, and simulated WBL, each requiring at least 50 hours. Internships must be LEA-sponsored, course-based, and include an employer rating of “meets expectations” or higher. WBL must be paired with another qualifying component under the CDE matrix to meet “Prepared” criteria. [CCI readiness matrix](#) [Dashboard resources](#)
- **CTE standards:** Phase 1 was approved in November 2025. Phase 2 is scheduled for November 2026 and covers Education/Child Development/Family Services; Energy/Natural Resources; Financial Services; Hospitality/Events/Tourism; and Public Safety/Services. Phase 3 is scheduled for November 2027. CDE is coordinating CALPADS and credential alignment; no final transition date was announced. [Standards timeline and office hours](#)
- **Technical assistance:** Standards office hours occur on the second Wednesday monthly, 3:30–4:30 p.m. CDE quarterly director meetings and Dashboard resources remain available. [Director meetings](#) [Meeting materials](#)

3. One Voice for Students

Jennifer Horton led the One Voice agenda item. ACSA's One Voice for Students Legislative Platform establishes shared advocacy priorities and guides Governmental Relations and local member advocacy. Member input informs the platform; the Legislative Policy Committee develops it, the Leadership Assembly ratifies it, and the Board adopts it each two-year legislative session, with a mid-session update.

For administrators, One Voice connects local school needs and professional experience with statewide advocacy. CTE concerns such as funding, pathway access, educator preparation, dual enrollment, and WBL can inform that process.

4. ACSA Governmental Relations Update

Serette Kaminski presented the following state and federal updates.

State legislation

- **AB 1590 (Ransom):** Signed; effective January 1, 2027. The CTEIG measure requires full allocation of appropriated funds and a revised formula beginning in 2027–28. ACSA supported the bill.
- **SB 845 (Pérez):** Signed. Defines CTE/WBL terms, expands WBL authority to charter schools, COEs, and state special schools, clarifies student insurance responsibilities, and establishes a DAS youth apprenticeship framework.
- **AB 1694 (Carrillo):** CTE renewal grants were included in the update; final status was not specified.
- **AB 2206 (Fong):** Signed. Prohibits community college districts from operating credentialing programs and clarifies recognition of their bachelor's degrees for credential requirements.
- **AB 2008 (Patel) and AB 2496 (Solache):** Reported signed. [AB 2008](#) [AB 2496](#)

Accountability revenue and endorsements

- **HR 87 (Muratsuchi):** Adopted by the Assembly; urges scrutiny of the necessity of new LEA reporting requirements, including in public analyses.
- **ACR 168 (Pacheco):** Reported approved; authorizes Education Code review for duplication and recommendations by the California Law Revision Commission.
- **Revenue outlook:** LAO reported improved revenue conditions driven by stock-market-related collections, with future fiscal challenges remaining.
- **ACSA endorsements:** Xavier Becerra for Governor; Richard Barrera for State Superintendent of Public Instruction; Yes on Proposition 3; No on Proposition 40. These were reported endorsements, not council votes.

College readiness and federal advocacy

- **UC readiness review:** Reported topics include possible SAT/ACT reinstatement, SBAC use, and A–G redesign. A member suggested UC/CSU recognition of high school A–G courses for college credit as well as admissions; no council action was recorded.
- **Federal priorities:** Preserving the U.S. Department of Education, protecting E-Rate, supporting mental health grants, helping the youngest learners, and maintaining core values.

Adjournment was recorded at 11:50 a.m.

Key Takeaways

- Near-term priorities include grant deadlines, WBL documentation, and preparation for the next phase of CTE standards.
- Legislative implementation, streamlined reporting, college-readiness policy, and federal funding remain significant advocacy issues.

Key Dates and Follow-Up

Date	Event or deadline
October 9, 2026, noon	Dual enrollment grant webinar Register
October 13, 2026, 3:30–5:00 p.m.	CCSPP webinar Register
October 30, 2026	CCAP/MCEC grant applications due
November 1, 2026	CCSPP opt-in due
November 12–13, 2026	SBE meeting and Phase 2 CTE standards item Schedule
November 13, 2026	CDE CTE Director quarterly meeting
November 17, 2026	Next ACSA CTE Council meeting
December 10, 2026	WIOA Title II application due
January 29 and May 14, 2027	CDE CTE Director quarterly meetings

Recommended Advocacy

- **CTE funding:** Recommended advocacy includes support for transparent, equitable implementation of the revised CTEIG formula, full allocation of appropriated funds, predictable timelines, and clear explanations of effects on small, rural, alternative education, and county office programs.
- **WBL and apprenticeship access:** Recommended advocacy includes a request for coordinated CDE/DAS guidance, model agreements, clear insurance responsibilities, and support for transportation, supervision, and employer engagement so expanded authority results in practical student access.
- **Accountability and data:** Recommended advocacy includes a request for common documentation templates and clear CCI/CALPADS reporting guidance for internships, student-led enterprises, and simulated WBL, including qualifying “Prepared” combinations.
- **Standards implementation and educator preparation:** Recommended advocacy includes support for funded professional learning, adequate transition time, and coordinated curriculum, coding, and credential crosswalks. Additional guidance is proposed on community college bachelor’s degrees and approved teacher-preparation pathways.
- **Connected funding and dual enrollment:** Recommended advocacy includes practical guidance on aligning CTE with community schools and dual enrollment opportunities, while preserving each grant’s allowable uses and accountability requirements.
- **Streamlined accountability:** Recommended advocacy includes review of duplicative requirements and a request that proposed LEA reporting mandates demonstrate a clear purpose, practical value, and manageable administrative cost.
- **College readiness and CTE recognition:** Recommended advocacy includes opportunities to provide input on UC’s reported readiness review and the A–G framework. Further consideration is proposed for the member’s proposed UC/CSU recognition of high school coursework for college credit, with attention to course rigor, faculty review, and articulation requirements. This proposal requires further council discussion.
- **Federal priorities:** Recommended advocacy includes support for preservation of the U.S. Department of Education, protection of E-Rate, and continued mental health grant support. Further development is proposed for specific proposals to support the youngest learners and clarify the core values referenced in the presentation.
- **Fiscal planning:** Recommended advocacy includes a request for timely revenue and budget updates to help LEAs sustain CTE pathways and plan beyond short-term revenue gains.