

Upcoming Events

- SD Invests Year 2 – January 16 & 17, Mitchell (visit southdakota.gosignmeup.com)
- Southeast Technical Institute TechEd Works Day – February 6, Sioux Falls (call 367-5467 for more information)

Please visit southdakota.gosignmeup.com to explore other professional development opportunities.



Connecting Students to the Workforce

SDMyLife Network is part of SD-MyLife.com, an online career and academic planning system implemented state-wide reaching over 60,000 grades 7-12 students.

SDMyLife Network's mission is to:

- Connect students, job seekers, and educators to real-world career opportunities in the community
- Identify and fill in the gaps between students' interest and workforce needs
- Engage our youth to see that South Dakota is a great place to live and work

The Network provides great benefits for all parties. Students benefit from having business professionals to connect to and interact with in developing their career aspirations. These interactions help students to define their career goals and gain knowledge of how classroom skills are applied to the world-of-work.

Educators benefit by having access to industry experts who want to be involved in student's career development. Through SDMyLife Network, educators can view available work-based learning experiences. Businesses benefit from this free online tool by highlighting their community involvement and actively developing the future workforce of South Dakota.

Participation in Network is FREE to businesses and takes very little time. Professionals can participate in Network through a number of different ways:

1. Set up a **Company Profile** – Individuals can set up and maintain a company profile to describe their business, highlight

their unique attributes, and communicate their areas of need to future employees.

2. Become a **Career Coach** – By spending less than an hour per week, professionals can share their experience and advice with students by contributing to online discussion boards.
3. Offer **Work-Based Learning Experiences** – Businesses and professionals can post and coordinate work-based learning experiences like job shadowing, company tours, internships, etc. that their business offers directly with students and educators.

Help us connect your students to a variety of professionals by expanding the SDMyLife Network.

Ask your friends, family and colleagues to  and start developing your future workforce 

New CTE Promotional Materials Available

Are you looking for a way to help students, parents, or even some of your colleagues better understand the value of Career & Technical Education?

The Division of Career & Technical Education has worked with the advertising firm Epicosity to develop a number of new marketing pieces related to CTE. These materials are great resources as you start to think about registration for next school year.

The new pieces include:

- [A promotional video](#)
- [A student brochure](#)
- [An educator brochure](#)

If you are interested in any of the brochures, please contact our office and we will send them your way.

Need some help?

Your regional CTE specialist is available to help in a variety of ways to continue to grow and develop your CTE program. Whether it is starting an advisory committee, making connections with postsecondary institutions, presenting to a community group, or sharing best practices your regional CTE specialist is ready to help! Contact information for each of the specialists can be found [here](#).

Mark your calendars!

Online CTE 101 Training this January

Are you a new CTE teacher? Or, are you an experienced teacher who is looking to learn more about the latest trends in CTE? Then this course is for you.

This January, the Division of Career & Technical Education will be hosting a month-long, online CTE 101 course.

The course will kick-off on January 7, with a one-hour webinar, and then will continue throughout the month using Edmodo. Participants will have until January 28, to complete the modules. To register for the course, please visit <https://southdakota.gosignmeup.com>.

Summer Conference Call for Proposals

Do you have a great idea that you can't wait to share with others. Consider presenting at the 2015 CTE Summer Conference.

The conference will be held on the campus of Lake Area Technical Institute on

July 27-28, 2015.

To submit a presentation proposal, please visit: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/6JF7MD9>. The deadline for submissions is January 16, 2015.



The National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists announced Chris Pollema, a senior HOSA student from Dakota Valley High School, as the winner of the \$185,000 National Academy Medical School Scholarship Challenge.

Chris was selected from over 3100 applicants across the nation. Applicants were charged with identifying an unsolved medical/scientific/world health problem and then create an original investigation of their own design to solve the problem.

Chris' topic was entitled "Using the Enzyme Choline Acetyltransferase to Either Prove or Disprove the Cholinergic Theory and Further Alzheimer's Disease Research."

"For almost two years I have visited an elderly woman at my local nursing home. Not only has this benefited me personally, but it has had an impact on my academics also. Without my experiences there, I doubt I have had as much interest in Alzheimer's disease which is

what I researched for my scholarship opportunity."

Chris learned about the scholarship opportunity last February while he attended the Congress of Future Medical Leaders in Washington D.C. "When I had returned from the Congress last spring, I was really inspired by Dr. Jill Bolte Taylor who had spoken at the conference regarding brain research. Later, I read her book and I was hooked." Chris says. When asked who has influenced him the most he replied, "My whole life I have been taught by my family that if you want something you need to do it for yourself. You need to work for it. I don't think this scholarship was any exception."

Chris has been a Dakota Valley HOSA member for the past two years.

"South Dakota HOSA has really helped me in developing my leadership and time management skills. Also, all of the interactions it has provided with medical professionals have only helped secure my hopes of one day having a career in medicine. I hope to one day be either a pediatrician or an orthopedic surgeon." Chris plans on attending the University of South Dakota, University of Minnesota, University of Iowa or Drake University as a pre-med major.

Business Partner Highlight: Community Memorial Hospital

Submitted by Erik Person, Burke Superintendent

The West River CTE Consortium, a collaborative venture between the Burke, Colome, Gregory, and South Central School Districts, has utilized some interesting partnerships with business and industry to provide opportunities for students. One such example is found in the PLTW Biomedical program. Part of what makes the West River CTE Consortium work for its member schools is the sharing of staff. Each school district contributes a half of a staff member trained in one area of CTE. The Burke School District is utilizing a partnership with Community Memorial Hospital in Burke to provide a qualified instructor in the biomedical field.

In the planning stages of developing the new programs for the consortium, the group of schools looked at the group's overall needs and determined which programs each school could staff with existing staff certification or with additional training for selected personnel. In the case of the biomedical program, the Burke School decided to utilize an already strong cooperative relationship with the local hospital. The idea of having an actual medical professional teaching the class was intriguing. Whether the school decided to go with an existing staff member in the science area or hiring someone new, additional training through the PLTW program was going to be needed.

The partnership with Community Memorial is a win/win for the school and the hospital. A reality in small town health care is that to be adequately staffed to cover shifts and on-call times, there will be times that the hospital is overstaffed compared to workload. In talking with hospital administration, it became clear that utilizing a staff member's time in certain departments outside of the hospital could keep shifts and calls covered without compromising patient care by being understaffed. All of the schools in the consortium are on an A/B block schedule, so the CTE teachers teach in their "visiting" schools on B days and are at their "home" schools on A days. In the case of the shared hospital staff member, that person teaches on B days and is worked into the hospital lab schedule on A days, along with taking his share of "on-call" shifts. The Burke School District pays a flat rate to the hospital that is roughly equal to a 0.5 FTE salary and benefits, which offset part of the fulltime salary the hospital would be paying out to a fulltime employee.

So far the arrangement has worked well. David Indahl, who has been a full time employee at Community Memorial Hospital for about 15 years, is in his first year of teaching with the consortium. Mr. Indahl is teaching in Bonesteel (South Central) this year, and will be in Burke the following year, with stints in Gregory and Colome to follow.



Career Cluster: Education & Training

The Education and Training career cluster is a diverse cluster which prepares learners for careers in planning, managing, and providing education and other related learning support services. If you enjoy motivating others, working with children, assisting those who need help and seeing others succeed, a career in the Education and Training cluster may be for you.

There are three different pathways in the Education & Training cluster:

- Teaching and Training
- Professional Support Services
- Administration & Administrative Support

Students considering a career in the Education & Training cluster should focus their studies in:

- English, Writing & Speech
- Human Development
- Introduction to Education & Training
- Teaching & Training as a profession
- Capstone Experiences

Suggested school activities for those interested in Education & Training:

- Athletics
- 4-H
- Student Council
- Tutoring
- FCCLA

Postsecondary Partner Highlight

Postsecondary partner

Project Lead The Way (PLTW) is the leading provider of rigorous, relevant and innovative Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education curricular programs in middle schools and high schools across the U.S. Through an engaging, hands-on curriculum, PLTW encourages the development of problem-solving skills, critical thinking, creative and innovative reasoning, and a love of learning. PLTW sparks the ingenuity, creativity and innovation that are within all of our students. Students are exposed to STEM careers through professionals from local industries who supplement the curriculum through mentorships and workplace experiences. PLTW offers courses in both Engineering and Biomedical Sciences.

Augustana College believes in the mission of Project Lead The Way and seeks to recognize students who have participated in PLTW courses. Students who have completed PLTW courses are eligible for [Augustana's PLTW scholarship](#). Student who have successfully completed PLTW courses at a certified PLTW school can also apply to receive college credit from Augustana.



Data Highlight:

Education & Training

- A librarian in South Dakota makes an average of \$18.72 per hour.
- By 2020, there will be an estimated 44,155 workers in Educational Services in South Dakota.
- Starting salary range for a Health Educator in South Dakota is \$32,900 to \$36,600.



A CTE Holiday Recipe

- 3 Cups of Quality Programs
- 2 Cups of Academic and Technical Skills
- 2 Heaping Tablespoons of Critical Thinking
- 1 Cup Firmly Packed All Purpose Excitement
- 2 Teaspoons Innovation and Creativity
- 1 Generous Pinch of Determination and Motivation

Preheat technology to 360°.

Combine first three ingredients until strong and solid. Gently blend in excitement.

Combine innovation and creativity with determination and motivation and mix with other ingredients until evenly distributed. Pour batter into the community and workforce. Cook until working productively.

Serves: all students

CTE Regional Specialist Profile

Kara Schweitzer



I'm Kara Schweitzer, and I am the East Central Region Career Development Specialist. I work with career and technical education programs in the Sioux Falls and surrounding schools, from the Madison area to Canton, Flandreau to Bridgewater-Emery, and everywhere in-between. I enjoy getting to know the programs and professionals in the schools I work with. I also interact with HOSA, PLTW, the Health Science career cluster and the Information technology career cluster. I have a marketing degree from Southeast Technical Institute and a public service and leadership and business degree from Dakota Wesleyan University.

I live in Sioux Falls with my husband Kevin, who works in agriculture and my children Ramsey (9), Owen (12), Teddy (18), and Jacob (20). My younger kids attend the Harrisburg school district and my oldest son and my daughter are both students at Northern State University in Aberdeen. In my free time I enjoy attending my kids' activities, getting together with my six brothers and their families, and reading anything I can get my hands on.



In The News

- School district report highlights strengths, opportunities
- MHS culinary students cook for gathering

Contact Information

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