



THREE RIVERS EDUCATION FOR EMPLOYMENT EFE 100

DIRECTOR'S SUMMARY - MAY 2026

Professional development and P&CC activities focus on advancing system goals: expanding equitable access to high-quality CTE programs, aligning pathways with local labor market needs, increasing work-based learning, and strengthening industry and community partnerships. Key activities and outcomes support student preparation for in-demand careers and address the workforce needs of Will, Grundy and parts of Cook County.

P&CC

FY 26 Leadership
Chair Nick Schroder and
Chair Elect Scott Duensing

- Regional leadership that guides CTE PD priorities for teachers and industry
- District admins and career center leaders.
- Oversees committees, curriculum, staffing, resources, and program evaluation.
- Collects industry and community feedback on curriculum and pathways for advisory committees

CTE NETWORK

FY 26 Leadership
Co-Chairs

Kara Gierke and Tammi Conn

- Collaborative Workgroup: Regional CTE teachers and leaders working together.
- Supports P&CC: Shares best practices, drives innovation, and aligns CTE programs with student and workforce needs.
- Partnerships: Works with Will and Grundy/Kendall ROEs to coordinate professional development, collaboration, and regional resources.

REGIONAL UPDATES

- [Leadership and District Running Reports](#)
- [ISBE National Career Clusters](#)
- **TREES End of Year Allocation Timeline and Forms**
 - [EOY Grant Allocation Requests/Feedback](#)
 - Review by Administrative Council on May 14th
 - Approved by TREES Director by May 21st
 - **TREES Proposals**
 - [CTE Learn - Courses](#)
 - [MS Career Guides](#)
- **TREES Programs of Study**
 - [Manufacturing](#)
 - [Information Technology](#)
- **Student to Apprenticeship**
 - [STA Partner Survey](#)
 - Calendar of Events
 - **Plumber 130 [Bridge Program](#)**
- [IWIN- Embedded Learning](#)
 - [WILCO - ECC](#)
 - [Plainfield East HS - FIT Support](#)
- **PDR/ Local Needs Assessment**
 - [PDR needs Career Center CIPs](#)
 - [Section 4 Regional Narrative](#)
 - **Deadline - May 11th**
- FY 27 Grant Budget Sheets
 - [TREES Grant Cheat Sheet](#)
- [Middle School/Elementary Grant Process](#)
 - [Elementary School Grant Guidelines](#)
 - Budget Tracking
 - Regional opportunities
 - **ECD FY27 Grant Sessions**
 - May 8th 9am-10am
 - May 12th 9am-10am
- **Regional Summer WBL Coordinator**
 - Summer Internship Credit
 - .5 credit
 - Schools provide student credit
 - May 14th Admin Approval

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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

TREES REGION PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- **CTE Network FY27**
 - **Work-Based Learning**
 - **Special Education**
 - **All Special Populations**
 - **AI**
- **Regional WBL**
 - **Fall Partner Breakfast and Engagement**
 - WBL Communications
 - 6th Grade Career Discovery Day
- Middle School and Elementary Leadership Group
 - Valley View, Reed Custer, GAVC, Channahon, Plainfield, Coal City, Braceville
- **Counselor Group**
 - May 13th at 1pm
 - May 18th At 1pm

Key PD Takeaways

- **Strong regional engagement:** 9 schools represented across the TREES region.
- **Largest session: CTE Network** - 22 participants.
- **Consistent participation:** Lockport Township
- **Multi-district involvement:** Valley View, Minooka, Coal City, Plainfield, Lincoln-Way, and Wilco Career Center all participated.
- **PD Survey sent out for FY27**

STATE AND NATIONAL PD

- ACTE Region III Conference, June 15-17, Menomonie, WI - TBD
- ICTA/IACTE Back to School Retreat July 28th - July 31st - Bloomington
- ACTE Best Practices - October 5th -8th - Denver, CO
- ACTE Vision - December 2nd - 5th - New Orleans, LA
- IACTE Conference - February 17th - 19th - Springfield, IL
- ACTE National Policy Seminar - March 7th - 10th - Arlington, VA
- ACTE WBL Conference - April 28th - 30th - Oklahoma City, OK

FY27 Professional Development Opportunities

- IMTS - September 14th - 15th
- Chicago BUILD - October 28th - 29th
- MFG Day - October 7th, 2026
- Health Educator Conference - November 6th

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