CTE STUDENTS IN ACTION NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2025

CTE STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING COMMISSION



Welcome to the first ever CTE Student Advisory Council Communication!
We are calling it the “CTE Students in Action Newsletter”

This production is our first step in identifying, make contact with, and empowering high school and community college CTE students across the state. Our hope is to help spread awareness and increase engagement and student leadership in CTE.

Sign-up HERE to be added to our mailing list and become part of our CTE Student Ambassador program!!

CONTENTS

Recent Activities

Champion Member: Vladislav Kirilov

Champion Organization: West Salem High School Robotics Team

Champion Teacher: Mr. Link

West Salem High School 9/11 memorial stair climb

CTE State Plan

Oregon FFA

Reminders

#ThisIsCTE, what is it and what can you do to help?

Career and employment opportunities

Advocating in CTE

How to be a student champion

Suggestion Box

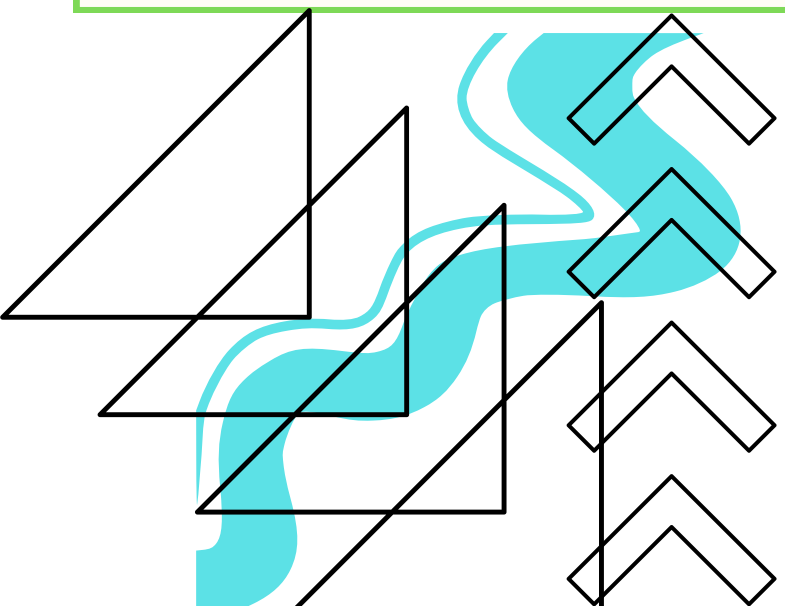
Upcoming Events

#ThisIsCTE

ODE News

HECC News

Advocating in CTE



Announcements

- **Submit information to #ThisisCTE to be highlighted through the ODE**
- **Sign up for Oregon CTE updates and become an ambassador!**

April Champions of Oregon CTE

APRIL CTE

CHAMPION MEMBER

Vladislav Kirilov



Fun Fact: Vlad has had all of his wisdom teeth removed

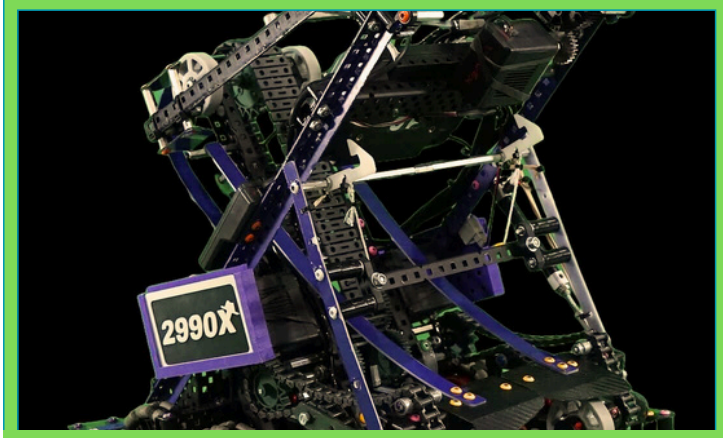
The best thing about Career and Technical Education (CTE) is its ability to bridge education and industry, creating a skilled workforce that drives societal and economic growth. I love CTE because I understand its crucial role in strengthening communities and fostering opportunities for individuals from all backgrounds. These programs not only equip students with hands-on experience and career-ready skills but also enhance the overall system we rely on by filling essential roles in various industries.

My name is Vladislav Kirilov, and I am an Ophthalmic Medical Technologist with a passion for career and technical education (CTE), healthcare, and community engagement. I currently work at PeaceHealth Medical Center and serve as a CTE Student Advisory Council Member, where I help shape the future of hands-on, skills-based education.

Originally from Kazakhstan, I started my journey at Portland Community College (PCC), where I was actively involved in student leadership. I served as a senator for ASPCC, gave tours to new international students, and worked in government relations in the president's office. In Spring 2024, I had the honor of being the commencement speaker for my graduating class.

APRIL CTE

CHAMPION ORGANIZATION





West Salem High School Robotics Team

West Salem High School NorCal Competition Interview with David Rodriguez:

Their robotics team also qualified for the national competition due to their Sportsmanship Award!

What were your favorite parts?

I really enjoyed traveling to San Jose, a city I had never been to, and meeting new people from all around the country. It was a great experience for our team, and we learned a lot that we plan to apply to future events like state.

What award did you win?

We won the Sportsmanship Award, which is given to the team that shows the most sportsmanship and integrity toward other teams during the competition.

What struggles did you face?

One struggle we faced was not qualifying for the elimination rounds. It would have been nice, but as our first national-level event, it was exciting just to get some wins.

APRIL CTE CHAMPION TEACHER



Mr. Link

What is your favorite accomplishment from a CTE or student organization program?

For our class I would say my favorite accomplishment would be the fact that our robotics class has sent someone to worlds every year for the past 15 years thanks to Mr. Smith.

What is your favorite part of teaching CTE?

My favorite part is the different equipment and technology that we get to use in the classes

What was the transition from teaching with Mr. Smith to teaching the robotics and computer science programs by yourself?

The transition to take over for Mr. Smith was difficult because there were a lot of different topics that I had to take on and learn well enough to be able to teach, and for some classes I wasn't able to keep up as well as I had hoped.

Recent Activities & Info

West Salem High School Emergency Service Program

What is it?

- **9/11 Memorial Stair Climb**
- **Gives students a chance to honor and show respect to 9/11 heroes**







Highlights

- **27 participants climbed a total of 2,909 flights of stairs**
- **12 people completed all 110 flights of stairs**
- **Provides hands on training in emergency response**
- **Provided a chance for students to honor those who gave their lives on 9/11**

CTE State Plan

What is it?

The CTE State Plan is a four-year plan that outlines:

1. Oregon's vision for CTE
2. Goals for CTE education and training
3. Partnerships that connect students with high-wage and high-demand industries.

Learn all you need to know about the 2024-2027 CTE State Plan for Oregon and share this flyer with your peers!

CTE State Plan Student One-Pager

Oregon FFA

The Oregon FFA State Convention recently took place, March 20-23! With 11 districts, 118 chapters, and over 16,500 memers, Oregon FFA enjoyed competitions, friends, and so many learning opportunities at convention!



Visit Oregon FFA's social medias and website for more information on results and how to get involved.

Upcoming Events & Reminders

Advocacy in CTE:

ACTE Advocacy Page

- I'm Just A Bill: Learn about what a bill is and what it means HERE - It is dated, but provides a very easy understanding of the bill process
- Oregon Legislature - Citizen Engagement
  - How to look-up CTE related bills
  - How to Submit Written Testimony on a Bill
  - How to Testify in Committee Hearings

Career/employment resources:

- Career Quiz
- Career Awareness and Exploration
- Oregon STEM Hubs
- WorkSource Oregon

#ThisIsCTE

The Council needs your help to gather videos, photos and other content to increase awareness of Career and Technical Education (CTE) and highlight the great things students are doing across the state. Please help us spread the word and encourage students (and/or instructors) to make submissions using this **FLYER** and/or this submission **FORM**.

You can also help **widen the reach of the #ThisIsCTE Campaign!!**

- FOLLOW ODE's Facebook and/or X (Twitter) Accounts
- LOVE and SHARE, COMMENT or REPOST #ThisIsCTE content
- ADD #ThisIsCTE to your school/organization's social media accounts

This leads to increased awareness, engagement, and brand recognition!

Oregon Department of Education (ODE) News

ODE Website

CTE Website

Subscribe to the CTE Update

Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) News

HECC Recent News and Updates

On this page are links to the most recent issues of our agency-wide newsletters, HECC Collaborations and HECC News Clips. In addition to these publications, we publish numerous regular newsletters and updates focused on specific HECC programs and topics. Sign up for other HECC newsletters here.

How to Become a CTE Student Champion

1. **Show your Support** for the CTE State Plan
2. **Sign up** to receive the CTE Students in Action Newsletter and help launch our CTE Student Ambassador program
3. **Submit** a **#ThisIsCTE** Post or content to this **newsletter**
    - Love/Share/Comment on CTE content on ODE's Facebook and X (Twitter) accounts
4. Apply to become a member of the CTE Student Advisory Council (Spring 2025 recruitment cycle)

Suggestion Box

Do you have a question for CTE Student Advisory Council Members or Oregon Department of Education/Higher Education Coordinating Commission staff? Do you have suggestions for this publication or our work? Submit it HERE and someone will follow-up (if requested)