



# Get the FACS

New York State Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Education  
Vol. 7 Issue 10  
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## Presidents Message:

As this school year draws to a close so does my term as NYS AFCSE President. As of July, I will serve as past-president and will continue to assist and mentor Connie Costley who will move forward as president for the next two years. She and I look forward to serving another year together.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as your state president. I have learned so much during my term of office. I hope that I have been able to adequately convey to all of you the importance of belonging to and also actively involving yourself in the work of NYS AFCSE. There are so many different initiatives in education today, and the pace of change is faster than ever.

I cannot stress enough the importance of all of us staying informed, and to be at the forefront of change as Family and Consumer Sciences educators in a variety of ways:

- ✓ We all need to be very regular visitors of the EngageNY website. This is our go-to site for teaching and learning resources designed specifically for New York's teachers, principals, administrators and Network Teams.
- ✓ This summer there will be the opportunity for professional development for NYS AFCSE members in Owego, NY July 31-August 1. Shirley Ware has sent several e-mails about this. **The deadline for registration is June 20.** This will be an informative and action-packed two days of training and roll-up-your-sleeves work to choose from on all of the latest initiatives, including Annual Professional Performance Review (APPR) for FACS teachers, writing Student Learning Objectives (SLO's), Food Science, FCCLA and curriculum writing for Nutrition, Health & Fitness.

- ✓ Plan to attend our statewide Unified Conference in Albany this coming October 12-13, 2012 at the Holiday Inn on Wolf Road. This will be a great opportunity to network with colleagues from across the state. Be sure to register!!
- ✓ Please consider becoming a member of ACTE when you next renew your NYS AFCSE membership. ACTE is a national organization committed to enhancing the job performance and satisfaction of its members, increasing public awareness and appreciation for career and technical programs and assuring growth in local, state and federal funding for these programs by communicating and working with legislators and government leaders.
- ✓ Please do your part in continuing to keep NYS AFCSE strong by keeping your membership up-to-date, and keeping your e-mail address current with our membership chairperson, Kim DeHart, so that you remain a part of our communication network. Attend your local meetings and become more involved at the state level.

Serving as president has been one of the most rewarding things I have ever done professionally. I thank you for the opportunity and I encourage each of you to take on some role in our association at either the local or state level. The more people we have involved, the stronger our voice is to those around us in the field of education. We need the synergy and the strength that comes with an active membership. Have a restful, rejuvenating summer.

Barb Mikler-Crandon, NYS AFCSE President  
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## What happened at the Regents meeting?

Once again, the Board of Regents discussed Career and Technical Education (CTE) at their recent meeting. Each time CTE is before the Board, I will provide you with a summary and some suggestions for action you may wish to take. The more informed we are, the better able we are to discuss Regents reforms with confidence and authority.

### May 22, 2012

The Board of Regents focused on Career and Technical Education in three ways this month when they met in Rochester, New York: they toured a variety of CTE programs, from approved to experimental; they revisited the 19-page April 2012 Regents discussion item titled, "Proposal to Create Multiple Pathways to a NYS High School Diploma;" and they heard from a panel of Rochester-area CTE stakeholders.

The "Proposal to Create Multiple Pathways to a NYS High School Diploma" item asked the Board to consider options for expanded pathways for students to meet graduation requirements. The recommendations included a CTE graduation pathway that would allow CTE students to earn a Regents diploma by substituting a technical assessment for a required Regents exam (possibly the Global History and Geography). This item also suggested that restructuring middle level CTE coursework may be necessary if multiple graduation pathways are approved. It is available at <http://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/>.

The panel included a principal of a CTE/STEM high school, a CTE teacher, a student, a parent, a business person, a college professor, and the District Superintendent from the Genesee Valley BOCES. The panel was asked to address the question of whether the Regents should consider a CTE pathway to graduation and to address both the potential benefits and the potential risks of offering a CTE pathway. Panelists were generally supportive of a CTE graduation pathway. To paraphrase:

- Multiple pathways lead to multiple successes. Students leaving CTE programs can see themselves in college and in careers. They can answer the questions, "What have you done?" and, "What can you do?"

- Students "vote with their feet" and they come to CTE programs. Why? Because CTE programs are relevant, rigorous, and encourage 21<sup>st</sup> century skills. Students take on responsibility for their own learning.
- A CTE pathway is a "necessary correction" to the "one-size-fits-all" pathway to a Regents diploma. To strengthen the economy of New York State we need to develop human capital. CTE programs are the place for successful students who want to become successful people.

The Regents were receptive to the panel, though they had questions around equity, access, rigor, and resources. The Board is concerned with balancing the benefits of offering a CTE pathway with the responsibility for fully educating each child. The webcast of the meeting with the panel is available at <http://usny.nysed.gov/webcasts.html>

No decisions were made. CTE will be back on the Board agenda in June.

### What action might the FACS field take?

Please read the Regents item referenced above if you haven't already done so. It is available at <http://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/>. Also, view the webcast of the panel discussion. It is over an hour long--which shows the dedication of the Board to fully investigating a CTE pathway to graduation. Please recognize that FACS teachers need to see themselves, and market themselves, as CTE professionals. It is a time to be visibly relevant. One way to do this is to work on getting CTE approval for your FACS program! Your students will benefit from the flexibility offered by a CTE graduation pathway only if they are in an approved CTE FACS program.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

## Ask a Pro

### **TRADITIONAL NEWS CAPSULE TO BE RETIRED**

There was much discussion at the May 2012 NYSAFCSE board meeting about the purpose and need for the News Capsule as we have known it. Since we have other more timely means of communicating with members, and this is a considerable expense in our budget, it was voted to retire this tool and focus time and energy on the weekly e-mail updates, the monthly e-news, and the website. The spring issue which will be released soon will be the last issue of the News Capsule. In 2012-13, we will have two expanded "issues" of the monthly e-news during the year. These will be distributed by e-mail to our membership. Please send changes in your e-mail address to our membership chairperson, Kim DeHart at [facsmembership@nycap.rr.com](mailto:facsmembership@nycap.rr.com). Hard copies will be sent to the members who do not have e-mail accounts. We look forward to continuing to expand our use of technology and take advantage of the means of keeping our members informed in a timely fashion.

### **NEW DEGREE PROGRAM: B.S. Family and Consumer Sciences Education**

Buffalo State has received approval to offer a new program in family and consumer sciences education. This B.S. degree will be housed in the Career and Technical Education Department under the leadership of John Popovich. It will offer a broad knowledge of family and consumer sciences plus skills in planning and communicating this knowledge to others, and will lead to initial NYS teacher certification. In approving this new program, the New York State Education Department reviewer commented that there are "few programs like this in NYS, and it is ideal that Buffalo State has a Career and Technical Education Department in which to house such a program". Students will be enrolled beginning in fall 2012.

As there were no questions this month I'm thinking that everyone is ready for the 3R's of Summer- Read, Rest, and Reflect.

Summer is a great time to catch up on journals and all those things that there just wasn't time to get to during the school year. I hope each of you finds time to rest and enjoy your family and friends.

But also remember to take the time to reflect on this past school year. What went well? What difference did you make in your students lives? What would you like to change for next year?

If any questions come up during your reflections, don't hesitate to contact me. Summer or not, NYSAFCSE and *The Pro* is there for you!

Have a great summer. And remember, NYSAFCSE is here for you year-round.

*Ask a Pro appears monthly. If you'd like information, suggestions or advice from a seasoned FACS veteran, just email [phillip3@twcny.rr.com](mailto:phillip3@twcny.rr.com). If you'd like an answer sooner than the next month's issue, just ask. NYSAFCSE is there for YOU!*

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*Get the FACS (eNews) is edited by Ann Coleman and sent monthly to our paid membership. If you know of a teacher who could benefit from our organization ask him or her to visit [www.NYSFACSE.org](http://www.NYSFACSE.org) for membership details. Distribution: [SWare@nscsd.org](mailto:SWare@nscsd.org)*