BUSINESS EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

JUNE 2019-ISSUE 1

MESSAGE FROM THE ASSOCIATE IN BUSINESS EDUCATION

For those of you I have not met, let me introduce myself. My name is Michael LaMastra and I am honored to serve as your associate in business education here at the New York State Education Department. I look forward to being a voice for you and the business education community here at the New York State Education Department.

Prior to joining the department, I worked for the past three school years as a business education teacher at HFM PTECH in Johnstown, New York. Prior to this, I worked in several districts including Cohoes, Lansingburgh, Mohonasen, and Voorheesville-all in the Albany area. I have had the opportunity to teach a variety of business education courses and learn and truly appreciate all of the areas of CTE along the way.

At the department, I am the contact person for all matters related to business education. My job duties include, but are not limited to CTE program approval, Perkins grant approval, providing support to BTA, our two-business career and technical student organizations (CTSOs): DECA and FBLA, and supporting overall activities within the CTE office. If I have not met you, please feel free to contact me at any time at michael.lamastra@nysed.gov or by phone at 518-486-1547.

My plan is to publish this newsletter monthly during the academic year. As you will see, there are sections where I am looking to you for submissions. If you have a promising practice or unique program or are doing something innovative, please let me know and I can possibly include it in this publication. Furthermore, if you have any suggestions or things that you would like to see, please contact me.

YEAR-END MESSAGE

As part of my job to support the business education community, I need your help to know what is going on in the field. Please contact me at michael.lamastra@nysed.gov to let me know if your school will be gaining or losing business positions for the 2019-20 school year. While SED does not explicitly mandate that all districts must employ a business teacher, this is still good data to get a sense of where business education is currently. My hope is that this forum will be one of many places to highlight the outstanding accomplishments of our CTE Business Education Community.

TOP FIVE LIST

In this segment, I will be running down the top five items of importance to business teachers each month. This is intended to be a quick synopsis of items that business teachers should be aware of. If you have further questions or need additional information, please contact me.

1. **Career and Financial Management:** In 2018, the department issued a new curriculum framework document for Career and Financial Management (CFM). The updated framework replaces the original 2002 release of Career and Financial Management. At least one-half unit of career and financial management instruction is required for all approved CTE programs and is suggested for all high school students. Read the new framework here.

2. **Middle-Level Instruction:** The Middle-Level CTE mandate has been updated to include all CTE areas including business education! The mandate requires that, between grades 5 and 8, all students take 1 ¾ units of CTE. A district can decide which CTE areas it will teach at the middle level unit, but it is an option for business education. Read more about the middle level program themes and the business-specific modules.

3. **Multiple Pathways for Graduation:** Regulations approved by the Board of Regents have approved a multiple-pathway model for graduation. All students throughout New York State can use the CDOS requirements or a CTE-approved program as a pathway for graduation.

4. **Communication:** One of my goals is to increase opportunities to network and collaborate among business teachers. Many of you are single-person departments. No matter how many instructors in your department, all can benefit from hearing about effective practices that others can learn from. The NYSED CTE Business Education web site has been updated and I will continue to post resources and presentations as I give them. Our new CTEBIZ listserv will also deliver a monthly state education department update. It has been redesigned to not allow replies, so please contact me if you would like to get information out to the business educator community. BTANYS also has a Facebook group and there are many other social media groups for business teachers to collaborate and share materials.

5. **Perkins Act Update:** CTE team has been working on the new state plan for the Perkins V, which was reauthorized in 2018. The Perkins Act provides New York State with over $24 million for secondary-level CTE funding. We are looking for input from various stakeholders. Please take a few minutes to complete this survey

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

In this section, I will be specifically discussing the activities of BTANYS (Business Teachers' Association of New York State). BTA Board Members may also contribute to this section. This section may also touch upon the work of other related organizations such as WECA (Work Experience Coordinators Association of NYS) and NYSACTE (New York State Association for Career and Technical Education)

The Business Teachers' Association of New York (BTANYS) has completed another successful school year. Francine Martella, from the Rochester City School District, has taken over as president and has been tirelessly working to strengthen the executive board and the position of business education statewide. Congratulations to the following new board members of BTANYS:

- Melinda McCarthy-Treasurer (new role)

- Lorena Izzo-NYC co-director
- Janina Marones-NYC co-director
- Tracy Farrell-Capital director
- Alicia Dargan-Syracuse director
- Christine Card-Rochester director
- Toula Foufas-Long Island co-director
- Renate Johnson-Long Island co-director

If you are interested in becoming involved with the board, please contact Francine Martella at president@btanys.org. There is especially a need for regional directors in the Southern Tier and Hudson Valley regions.

Please support their work by joining as a member or renewing your existing membership. Their work needs your support to continue the momentum that we have built this year. With their work, they have established regional conferences, established a newsletter, and provided numerous opportunities for high-quality CTLE.

SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT

In this section, I will be highlighting one or more schools and business programs that are doing unique and innovative things. If you wish to have your school featured in this section, please e-mail me at michael.lamastra@nysed.gov. This is a great way to publicize the great work that you do.

PROGRAM APPROVAL NEWS

In this section, I will congratulate all programs who are newly approved or have gained reapproval. For more information on the program approval process, please contact me or the CTE Technical Assistance Center.

Congratulations to the following business programs which recently received CTE Approval

- Lancaster High School-Academy of Finance

Congratulations to the following business programs which recently received CTE reapproval

- Canastota High School-Accounting
- Canastota High School-Business Marketing and Marketing Management
- William Floyd High School-Business Administrative Studies
- Camden High School-Accounting

CTSO NEWS

In this section, I will be reporting on the happenings of our two excellent Business Education Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs): DECA and FBLA. If you do not have a chapter in your school of a CTSO, I would strongly encourage you to look into having one. CTSOs promote student leadership and are great marketing tools for your program as a whole. Please contact me if you are interested in starting a chapter of either organization and I will forward you to the respective leadership team.

BUSINESS WORLD INFORMATION

In this section, I will be highlighting recent events in the business world and/or labor market. In training tomorrow's future leaders, we should constantly be aware of the changes coming in our world and help students to better prepare for them.

UPCOMING EVENTS

If there are any regional events that are of interest to business teachers, please let me know and I will publish them here.

June 21, 2019 BTA Regional Meeting: Holiday Inn Johnstown, NY

June 24-27: COAP (Career Opportunities in Accounting Profession) program: SUNY New Paltz and Westchester Community College

June 27-July 1: COAP program: Adelphi University

June 29-July 2: COAP program: St. John's University

June 30-July 3: COAP program: SUNY Oswego

July 23-25, 2019: AICPA Accounting Training: Siena College Albany, NY