



TOOLS FOR TEACHING: 93RD ANNUAL MASSCTE : LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP, CONFERENCE & BANQUET RECAP

On March 27th & 28th, MassCTE proudly welcomed educators, administrators and educational staff from across the state to the Renaissance Hotel at Patriot Place in Foxborough, Massachusetts for the 93rd Annual Leadership Workshop, Conference & Banquet. Using the theme Tools for Teaching: Empowering CTE Teachers for the Future, participants in Fridays Leadership and Saturdays PD Workshops, participants were educated and inspired by students, industry experts and were afforded the opportunity to network with CTE professionals. The two day event was capped off with the annual Banquets where several students, faculty and friends of MassCTE were recognized as outstanding leaders within our organization.

LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP : BUILDING FUNDAMENTALS : FRIDAY MARCH 27TH

Friday's SOLD OUT Leadership Workshop was organized and hosted by MassCTE Leadership Coordinator, Jarrod Lussier. His collection of nine presenters used the theme of Building Fundamentals to create the days leadership series.

- Kyara Sanon and Kaylee Doherty, both juniors at Southeastern Regional started the series off with **Foundations**, and their presentation highlighted the foundational skills students value in teachers: clear expectations, consistency, and effective instruction, which support meaningful learning.
- **Framing the Work**, presented by Andrew Rebello, with assistance from colleagues- Jerilyn Karam-Kozak & Kristen Mancini all of Bristol-Plymouth Regional High School presented on staff professionalism and how focusing on how clear structures, consistent routines, and shared expectations strengthen daily practice.
- Lloyd Lamarre of Southeastern, explored the systems and processes that enable foundational practices to function effectively in **Systems That Support**. These systems included communication, collaboration, and student supports.
- Just before the lunch break, in the session- **Finishing with Purpose**, Pamela Olsen of Tri-County Regional Vocational High School finished the morning by touching on refining instructional practice through thoughtful decisions that enhance clarity, engagement, and accessibility for students.
- **Alignment, Fidelity, and Preventing Drift**, had participants reviewing how monitoring practice and adjusting as needed ensures fidelity to core instructional fundamentals. This session was presented by Erica Thomas of the Attleboro School District and centered on reflection, feedback, and alignment to standards, expectations, and outcomes.
- Southeastern's Michele Mastroianni-Darche closed out the leadership series with her presentation topic of **Sustaining Quality** - material focused on maintaining high-quality practice over time through consistency, reflection, and continuous improvement. Educators were asked to consider how reinforcing fundamentals supports long-term effectiveness and student success.



CONFERENCE : SATURDAY, MARCH 28TH

Saturday's Conference was kicked off by **Jarrold Lussier** and his interactive Keynote Presentation: **"Structural Integrity"** -relating the educational needs for students and staff within the building to the structures in place in a building itself, Jarrod used a variety of team activities to help bring his points home. The ideas of what tangible and intangible structures are used to build a school, what matters most in a school structure and what shakes a school structure were introduced and a potential methods for strengthening all structures were discussed. Adding to this successful keynote, the hands- on building of structures with cards and legos gave a great visual of the way the systems within a school work together.

Through-out the rest of the day, session halls were filled with a variety of motivational presentations that **Empowered CTE Teachers for the Future.** A trend within the offers this year was in using AI in a multitude of ways. AI focused presentations shared how to engage with AI tools; how to apply classroom-ready strategies for integrating AI into project-based learning, as well as how to use AI to help redesign and create practical classroom resources and assessments. Outside of AI offerings , presenters shared techniques for educators to use to help build student ownership, design rigorous performance tasks and also how literacy skills impact learning, and learn about literacy strategies. For those with Program Advisory committees, a session on how to use your Advisory Committees as strategic assets in addition to their typical compliance requirements was powerful. Rounding out the topics was a session focused on tools to regulate and motivate you as an instructor - an inspiring hour that shared small but mighty movement and mindfulness strategies to help support you throughout the day.

: STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY : SCHOOLS AS STRUCTURES

- CULTURE = FOUNDATION
- LEADERSHIP = FOOTINGS
- TEACHERS = FRAME
- CURRICULUM = MATERIALS
- SYSTEMS = CONNECTIONS
- FACILITIES = CONNECTIONS



MASSCTE : CONFERENCE & STATE BANQUET 2026

The annual MassCTE Banquet pulled together nearly 200 supporters to celebrate the successes of our members, students and community supporters this past year. **Kristen Martinson** of **Worcester Technical High School** was recognized as our New CTE Teacher of the Year. Additionally, 10 students were recognized as well as three community supporters - **Kevin Holmes** of **Advantage Truck Group**; **Timothy P. Murray**-Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce and **State Representative Adam J. Scanlon**. A complete list of those celebrated can be found [here](#), along with photos taken throughout the evening [here](#).

BEST IN SHOW : 2026

One additional highlight of the evening's banquet is the Best in Show Competition and Raffle. This year we had 15 amazing student created projects on display and available as prizes. Projects from Southeastern Regional stole the show this year - winning both awards offered - The Most Creative Award and Best in Show! Be on the lookout for a special recap of all the entries before summer break.

A special thank you to the organizers of this years Best In Show Event - **Tia Gerber** and **Nik Kedian** of **Whittier Tech** who were in contact with schools through-out the year and coordinated a great showing!!!

CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS

- AET Labs
- CRL Promotions
- Diamond Point Wealth Partners
- Fitchburg State University -
- School of Graduate, Online and
- Continuing Education
- Imagine Learning
- JFYNetworks
- Learning Blade
- Lincoln Technical Institute
- Massachusetts BPA
- Massachusetts DECA
- Ockers Technology
- TechEd Products
- Technology Education
- Concepts



