



OUR PURPOSE

To CONNECT all CTE professionals with the network, resources, and abilities they need to make a meaningful difference.

Dear AZ CTE Family,

It is my honor to welcome you to the 50th Annual ACTEAZ/ADE Arizona CTE Summer Conference—The Connection Conference: Empower Lives. This milestone event celebrates not only a half-century of CTE excellence in Arizona, but the incredible educators, counselors, administrators, CTE professionals, and industry partners like you who continue to empower students, schools, and communities.

This year's theme, *Empower Lives*, captures the heart of what we do in CTE. For five decades, Arizona's CTE professionals have equipped students with the skills, confidence, and career opportunities that unlock pathways to the American Dream. Just like Arizona's early pioneers who blazed new trails to independence and prosperity, we come together to celebrate 50 years of bold, forward-thinking education that builds futures and strengthens our workforce.

This conference offers more than professional development. It's a time to reflect on our shared legacy, exchange innovative ideas, and unite under a common purpose—to ensure every student in Arizona has the chance to build a successful, purpose-filled life. With over 300 sessions and unmatched networking opportunities, this year's gathering will showcase the power of CTE to shape both individuals and economies.

On a personal note, this year also marks my retirement after 34 years in public education. I can think of no greater way to celebrate this chapter than alongside the passionate professionals who make Arizona's CTE community so special. My career has always been about creating opportunities for students, and I leave knowing that mission continues in capable and caring hands—*your* hands.

Thank you for being here. Thank you for the work you do. And thank you for continuing to believe in the power of CTE to change lives. Let's make this 50th-anniversary celebration unforgettable. Let's continue to *Empower Lives*—one student at a time.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J Greishaber".

James Greishaber
President, ACTEAZ