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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WEST-MEC HOSTS FIRST EVER VIRTUAL NETWORKING EVENT FOR AZ CTE TEACHERS

Glendale, Ariz. (August 14, 2020) Western Maricopa Education Center (West-MEC)--a public career technical education district--is pleased to announce the first virtual networking event for Arizona Career Technical Education (CTE) teachers.

The new online learning environment brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic has challenged educators and school districts. The West-MEC Curriculum & Instruction (C&I) and Professional Development (PD) departments worked together to host 158 CTE teachers in the first ever Statewide virtual networking event.

On July 30th, CTE teachers and stakeholders from around the state came together virtually to share best practices and troubleshoot challenges for the upcoming school year. Teachers heard from ADE, the Arizona Curriculum Consortium, and ACTEAZ about statewide efforts and resources for online learning. They then collaborated in industry clusters to glean ideas from fellow educators, other districts, and ask topical questions regarding their programs and credentialing.

Program sessions were facilitated by West-MEC C&I and PD professionals. Arizona Department of Education (ADE) CTE Program Specialists then led attendees in specialized 90-minute breakout sessions. Participants joined a collaboration group from like industry backgrounds to collaborate on resources and strategies for teaching CTE in an online format.

West-MEC continues to develop new ways to engage our local community through virtual offerings. For more information about Professional Development opportunities, both virtual and in-person, please visit <https://pdcircle.west-mec.org/>.

About West-MEC:

West-MEC is a career technical education public school district that focuses solely on innovative career and technical education (CTE) programs that prepare students to enter the workforce and pursue continuing education. West-MEC CTE programs provide students opportunities to earn college credit and industry credentials. West-MEC serves more than 37,000 students from 48 high schools, across 3,800 square miles in the northern and western cities of the Phoenix Metropolitan area. West-MEC now also offers adult education programs. Visit www.west-mec.edu for more information about West-MEC's career-driven education opportunities or follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

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