What is Career and Technical Education?
The Association for Career and Technical Education is the largest national education association dedicated to the advancement of education that prepares youth and adults for careers. It's our mission is to provide educational leadership in developing a competitive workforce.

Career and Technical Education:
- Encompasses 94 percent of high school students and 12 million postsecondary students
- Includes high schools, career centers, community and technical colleges, four-year universities and more
- Educates students for a range of career options through 16 Career Clusters® and 79+ pathways
- Integrates with academics in a rigorous and relevant curriculum
- Features high school and postsecondary partnerships, enabling clear pathways to certifications and degrees
- Fulfills employer needs in high-skill, high-wage, high-demand areas
- Prepares students to be college- and career-ready by providing core academic skills, employability skills and technical, job-specific skills

At FDSH, we offer a wide range of Career and Technical Education courses in the areas of Business, Family & Consumer Sciences, Health Occupations, Industrial Technology, and Marketing.

Career & Technical Education Educator Professional Development

Seven FDSH Career & Technical Education teachers attended the Iowa Association for Career and Technical Education State Conference in September.

This two day conference allowed educators to attend several sessions that enable them to stay up to date on new and effective teaching strategies to use in the classroom. These strategies are used to provide students with updated skills, knowledge, and abilities to get jobs be productive citizens, earn good salaries, and advance in their careers by earning industry certifications and degrees.

Keynote speakers described what CTE professionals can do to move Iowa CTE forward, the connection between work and dignity, and how CTE educators can provide students with opportunities to recognize and appreciate the contribution their own work makes to the world around them.

“Vocational education programs have made a real difference in the lives of countless young people nationwide; they build self-confidence and leadership skills by allowing students to utilize their unique gifts and talents.”

—Conrad Burns
SkillsUSA

SkillsUSA has been around FDSH for many years, but in the last five we have seen more students getting involved in this organization. SkillsUSA is a national partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. It also helps each student develop into world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens.

Each year FDSH students compete in skills contest that are organized and judged by industries in many career and technical areas that we offer here at FDSH. A total of 42 students competed in the areas of Industrial Technology, Family & Consumer Sciences, and Health Occupations. FDSH had 17 medal winners that included National Qualifiers in the areas of Technical Drafting, Medical Terminology, Cabinetmaking, Health Knowledge Bowl, Carpentry, Early Childhood Education, Automated Manufacturing, and First Aid and CPR. This is a big change from 2010 when we traveled to the state contest with seven students and only had three medal winners and one national qualifier.

The 2014 National SkillsUSA contest took place in Kansas City again this past summer with five students competing in events (some qualifying students were not able to attend due to scheduling conflicts) Akaiha Preston (Jr.) competed in the Medical Terminology contest that evaluated her knowledge of medical terminology and abbreviations of an individual preparing for employment in the health occupations fields. She placed 6th in the nation in this event. Zach Provin (Sr.) was the fifth straight student to compete in this year’s Cabinet Making contest that required the building of a small cabinet from materials and drawings supplied. Zach placed 20th in this event. Joseph Walston (Sr.) was our school’s first four-year medal winner at the state level and was also a second time qualifier in this year’s Technical Drafting contest that focused on the solution of industry-developed problems by applying appropriate technical drafting skills and tools including computer-aided drafting (CAD). Joseph placed 24th. Teyera Johnson (Jr.) competed in Early Childhood Education contest that had her demonstrate her knowledge of developmentally appropriate practice and her ability to prepare and implement learning activities for children 3-5 years old. Teyera placed 25th. McKenna Egesdal (Sr.) was a two-time national qualifier for FDSH in Nurse Assisting. Her contest consisted of demonstrating knowledge and skills in performing personal care, encouraging patient independence, assisting with ambulation, and performing other routine tasks related to the health care industry. McKenna placed 20th in this year’s contest.

Sign up for the 2015 contest will start after winter break and the state contest this year will be taking place in early May.

FDSH Robotics Club

The Fort Dodge Senior High robotics club is readying for this year’s league competition.

The team, in its third year, spends Saturday mornings building remote-controlled machines and arena game pieces as part of the first tech challenge.

The team is supported by a grant from Rockwell Collins, an aerospace company based in Cedar Rapids, and holds fundraisers for travel and registration expenses.

The club will have their first scrimmage in Humboldt on Nov. 8, followed by their first league match on Nov. 22. Another league match follows on Dec. 9.

The team will continue to practice and build through Christmas break for a league match on Jan. 10 and then the league championship on Jan. 17.
Family & Consumer Sciences Facts

The Family Consumer Sciences, FCS, department has been busy in the different classes.

In the Clothing class they repurposed shoes or cell phone case to show their knowledge of elements and principles of design. The students also are learning how to use the sewing machine. They are in the middle of projects, even making pillowcase to donate to the pediatric wing at the hospital. Stop by Room 43 showcase to see the awesome projects the students have made.

In Child Development the students have been learning about the needs of infants, from prenatal development all the way to 1 year of age. The students also have been taking home an infant doll to experience what it might be like to be caring for a baby at this point in their life and

FCCLA

The Fort Dodge FCCLA has been busy. They have prepared a supper for the Youthnet meeting at the beginning of October. They also have been selling Tervis cup and will start selling That's My Pan in November. The money fundraised will help to cover the cost of different events the students are planning on participating, like State Leadership Rally and STAR events. The members have been picking out which STAR event they want to participate in and what they want to do to for that event.

The Fort Dodge FCCLA Chapter, along with over 500 members and advisers from FCCLA chapters across the state, attended the Iowa FCCLA Fall Leadership Rally on Monday, October 13, 2014.

Fall Leadership Rally is an opportunity for Iowa FCCLA members to learn more about the organization and build their leadership skills. The rally was an exciting day for Iowa FCCLA members. This year’s keynote speaker, Patrick Grady, facilitated various activities to enhance Iowa FCCLA members’ leadership skills while sharing his passion and enthusiasm. In the afternoon, members attended various breakout sessions put on by the State Executive Council. Fall Leadership Rally is one of many opportunities FCCLA offers in addition to district meeting, National Cluster Meeting, and National Leadership Conference.

“IT’s not the employer who pays the wages. Employers only handle the money. It’s the customer who pays the wages.”

Henry Ford
Business, Computer & Marketing Briefs

The Personal Finance Class has been studying about the different types of financial institutions. During the unit, Matt Wagner, VP of CS Bank, was a guest speaker. Mr. Wagner explained to the students the services offered by Savings & Loans institutions.

As the students moved into their Unit of housing, they researched the differences between owning and renting a home. They were able to take a field trip to see a home that was ready to be sold. Coldwell Banker Real Estate Agent Troy Anderson gave the students a tour of the home and shared with the students what steps are needed when purchasing a home.

DECA

DECA's theme for the 2014-15 school year is I AM DECA. All conferences and activities will be centered around this theme.

Central Region Leadership Conference is in Minneapolis, December 5-7. DECA students will have the opportunity DECA's Central Region will take over Minneapolis as DECA members learn the ins and outs of being a great leader, prepare for college and careers and network with industry experts, association and chapter leaders and many others.

The students may also tour the Target Center, Piper Jaffrey, Vertical Endeavors, or the Mall of America.

Work-Based Learning Wares

The two Multi-Occupations Cooperative Education classes are currently covering safety in the workplace.

The employers currently supporting our Coop students are Tom Thumb Drive Inn & DQ, Pizza Ranch, Target, Jimmy Johns, Friendship Haven, Menards, Clean All, Little Caesars, Subway, & McDonalds.

Those businesses include: Eastlawn Animal Hospital, Kidszone Daycare, La'James, Subway, Almost Home Animal Shelter, Dominos, Fort Dodge Ford, Bath & Body Works, Becker Florists, Cooper Elementary, Dr. Brown - Optometrist, Applebee's, Jensen Builders, Buford's, Dr. Clay - Dentist, Hy-Vee Bakery, Taco Tico, The Rec, and ICCC - Great Western Dining.
Housing & Home Interiors, Teen Living, Early Childhood Education, ICCC Intro to Hospitality and ICCC Food Prep.

Health Occupations Courses Offered: Health Care Foundations, Exploring Health Careers, Medical Assistant Procedures, ICCC Nurse Aide, ICCC Intro to Health Care, ICCC Medical Terminology, ICCC Body Structure & Function and ICCC Basic Athletic Training.


The following link is to the 2014-15 Course Catalog. A description of the courses can be found there. http://www.fort-dodge.k12.ia.us/documents/filelibrary/seniorhigh/counseling_dept/Course_Catalog_1415_60B9E52D46CF0.pdf