



Award Biography

As an AgriScience teacher, Curt's students won dozens of FFA contests and various regional, state, and national awards. Recognized for excellence in teaching, Curt has been a Flowing Wells HS Teacher of the Year and became a Top Five Ambassador for Excellence. Curt also was an active member of AATA and served as president. He was recognized in 2002 by the National Dissemination Center for an Exemplary Secondary CTE Program.

One of the first hires of Pima JTED in 2007, Curt became the Director of Professional Development and "Godfather" of the teachers for the district. Curt now leads the professional development department of Pima JTED, which offers over 25 professional development courses and workshops throughout the year for JTED teachers.

Curt has been active in ACTEAZ, serving in various capacities for 28 years. He has led ACTEAZ by presenting at Summer and Mid-Winter Conferences and held the office of President twice. He accomplished all this while augmenting the professional development opportunities offered for Pima JTED and CTEDs nationwide. Curt is known throughout the state as "Mr. CTE," and his dedication, vision, and leadership skills support the notion of why we all want to "be like Curt".

Curt Bertelsen has been instrumental in developing an easily accessible repository of lessons and strategies in specific content areas and high-quality professional development. This Curriculum Project has grown into the state-wide Arizona Curriculum Consortium, and Curt has served on the board of directors. Curt also was part of the group that initiated the ACTEAZ Premier Series of professional development courses.

For the past several years, Curt has spearheaded an effort to ensure all CTE instructors are members of ACTEAZ and other professional organizations by reaching out personally to them and advocating that districts pay for their memberships. He also encourages teachers to participate in ACTEAZ offerings by becoming Fellows, attending conferences, and presenting at conferences.

His communication with CTED's Governing Board about the benefits and importance of supporting conference attendees has resulted in continued support through the Board's payment of registration fees and stipends.

As a teacher, administrator, and person, Curt Bertelsen is the exemplary CTE professional we all aspire to be. Join me in congratulating Curt Bertelsen on this lifetime achievement.