

Hi ya'll from San Antonio, Texas. Welcome to Vision 2018, what an incredible experience to attend the national conference for ACTE. Networking with individuals involved in career and technical education, getting new teaching ideas and enjoying some warmer weather were the high points of this week. Several Family and Consumer Sciences teachers attended the conference and will have some great ideas to share this year with teachers in our state. Jump aboard a scooter and we will take a tour of the ACTE Vision Conference.

The opening session our first speaker was Swiss Ambassador, Dr. Dehinden. He discussed apprenticeship programs and the Swiss education system. Switzerland is working with organizations, such as ACTE to make apprenticeship programs a viable choice for U.S. students. Switzerland offers 200 apprenticeship programs to young people, it has the lowest unemployment rate for young adults in the world and a highly trained, highly skilled work force.

Through the work of ACTE, CTSOs and CTE teachers Perkins funding has increased by \$150 million over the last 2 years. If you are interested in reading the complete Perkins Law the Perkins V Guide may be found on the ACTE website. Many other resources are also available to members on the website including: Post-secondary Leaders Success Program, scholarship information, ACTE Quality Framework and STEM Parent. Stem Parent is a tool that can help teachers inform parents about career choices for their students.

Jenna Bush Hagar is an American news personality, teacher, author, and journalist. She is the younger of the twin daughters of the 43rd U.S. President George W. Bush and former First Lady Laura Bush, and a granddaughter of the former 41st U.S. President George H. W. Bush and former First Lady Barbara Bush. As a teacher and educator, she shared her perspective on education and the importance of Literacy. She also shared her belief in teaching students to be caring, compassionate, community-minded adults. It was inspiring to hear her perspective on poverty, being part of a global community. She shared stories about her grandmother, former First Lady Barbara Bush and the importance of family, communication, and literacy. As a former educator who changed careers to become a voice for education and civic engagement who has used her contacts to further both the literacy program her grandmother worked on and the Points of Light campaign that her grandfather is heralded for. Jenna and her sister, Barbara have written a book titled, "Sisters First" which contains stories of their family.

Several workshops focused on STEM/STEAM continues to be at the forefront of current education trends. It is important for family and consumer sciences teachers to take a moment and focus on how science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics are all present in the FCS curriculum.

Tisha Richmond, A culinary arts teacher and technology integration specialist from Medford, Oregon, author of "Make Learning Magical" introduced participants to techniques of layering games over their current curriculum to engage students. She uses gamification in her classroom to create an element of collaboration and friendly competition. Tisha shared information about adding another dimension to a culinary classroom but her technique could be used in any subject area.

Thank you for the opportunity to represent Montana at ACTE in San Antonio, I look forward to sharing the great ideas from this conference with all of you during the year and at our meeting in Great Falls next fall.

Cathe Felz