

CTE Decline Continues

- California Department of Education CBEDS data shows 2009 numbers for CTE enrollment and class offerings are again lower than year before

Student Access to A-G and CTE is a Matter of Law

- Education Code Section 51228 requires districts maintaining grades 7-12 to provide students with access to both A-G and CTE -- **(HANDOUT)**
- This is a co-equal requirement. It is not “one or the other.” It is NOT permissive.

School Districts are Violating the Law

- School districts throughout California routinely deny student access to both “A-G” and CTE.
- This is a violation of the law and it is a violation of the student’s rights to an appropriate education.

A-G Campaign

- Statewide organizations concerned with “A-G” brought this issue to the Capitol in early 2000’s and the legislature refused to mandate “A-G” as a graduation requirement.
- Campaign went local and statewide – with success in local districts (San Jose, LAUSD, San Francisco, San Diego, Napa, etc.)
- “Non-arts” CTE has all but disappeared in these districts.

Unintended consequences

- Districts who have adopted these requirements are now in flagrant violations of the law for dramatically reducing and/or eliminating altogether meaningful CTE programs – those programs that could serve California’s economy (i.e. NOT Photo I, Photo II and Photo III.)
- Not the “A-G” activists’ fault -- they simply want and deserve student access to “A-G” coursework.
- California needs student access to CTE coursework
- Law requires both

Districts need to comply

- Law says “both” A-G and CTE “coequally” -- Not “one or the other”
- SB 381 ensures balance.

Opposition Arguments

- Arguments that districts don’t have the resources to provide both are unpersuasive. Why?
- Because it forces a qualitative judgment by this committee that it is “one or the other” and that “one” is more important than the other. Members have repeatedly said “BOTH” are equally important to the success of our children.
- Furthermore it is the law.