

# CACTA Taskforce

## Middle School Program Approval Discussion Feedback

---

**March 3, 2011**

Thank you to all who participated in the conversation. I apologize to those listening online with the intermittent signal!

Only minimal clerical changes and one significant change was made to the document. The significant change was the elimination of the "Transition to a high school program" data from the requirements at the bottom of page 6.

### **Key discussion and potentially action items:**

#### **Teacher credentialing**

There was a concern that middle school instructors who have been actively teaching would not qualify for a CTE endorsement due to occupational experience. This should not be a problem for them due to the option to use 3 years of active, full-time teaching in lieu of occupational experience.

#### **CTSO Activities**

The recommendation was made that CCCS monitor the participation of MS students in historically HS organizations to determine if combined events or separate events would be more appropriate.

#### **Awareness**

It was noted that we need to promote the implementation plan and timeline (wherever we end up) through all channels possible to ensure all districts have an equal opportunity to participate.

#### **How will CCCS manage umbrella (wheel) program approval requests?**

Where a large number of the districts have a rotational experience available to students, CCCS needs to consider how those approvals should be designed, submitted and approved.

#### **Additional Requirements**

When asked what requirements were missing that might need to be considered, the two that arose were the requirement that students leave the program with an ICAP started and demonstration of some exposure to the students to nontraditional careers within the cluster or pathways covered by the program.

#### **Pilot Year and MS Taskforce Proposal**

It was proposed that we slow the implementation through a pilot process that would limit each district to the submission of up to two (2) programs for approval this spring. Simultaneously CCCS would convene a Middle School Program Approval Taskforce that would be throughout the next year to help define what a quality Middle School program or programs should look like and make policy recommendations in the Spring of 2012 to positively influence future program development. This taskforce would consist of Middle school and high school instructors and CTE administrators.

**Potential Timeline**

If agreement is reached on the requirements prior to April 1, they will be considered by the Administrators Handbook Taskforce on April 6<sup>th</sup> for approval. If approved, CCCS staff will create Program Approval Templates by the end of April. Potentially, the forms could be announced, distributed and reviewed during the April 21<sup>st</sup> CTE Administrator webinar. CCCS would then begin receiving forms for review and approval on or around May 1<sup>st</sup>.