As we celebrate the holidays (Saint Nicholas, Fiesta of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa and Omisoka to name a few), I bring you greetings. In the midst of this time of celebration, we still have work to do. Sometimes the work seems to hinder or postpone the celebrations. When this happens, I count it all joy. Yes, all of it. It’s easier than it sounds and it sets a wonderful example.

Take a moment and list some of the things that feel tedious and seem to be standing between you and the celebrations. “I have to _____ and I have to ____...” Now change one word and count it all joy. Repeat your list, but change “have” to “get”. “I get to _____ and I get to ____... “

Why? Because somebody somewhere wishes they had the opportunity to ____ and ____.

It is much easier to celebrate this time of joy if we make it joyful. Show our children how to enjoy what they do. Show them how to count it all joy.

For starters, here are a few of the things you get to do this month…

| December 1 | **Begin entering Follow up data** *(Read the instructions. Things have changed)* |
| December 12 | **TEDS Training** *(https://education.ky.gov/CTE/teds/Pages/default.aspx)* |
| December | **Suggested Data Cleanup Month** *(ensure students are correctly identified as exploring or preparatory)* |
| January 15 | Deadline for Students to be marked Preparatory for KOSSA and TRACK |

Occasionally, I get a call from someone who has missed an important deadline or forgotten to dot an “i” or cross a “t”. When this happens, I choose to believe that it was a random mistake. Of course, it doesn’t change the deadline. After all, we make our students meet deadlines. How silly would we look if we didn’t show them how to do it? I choose to believe that I can count on you to be solid examples of some of the soft skills like time management that our students so desperately need.

Manage you time wisely. The whole timeline is on the website. *(https://education.ky.gov/CTE/teds/Pages/default.aspx)*
The Final COUNTdown

(Shakira)

“KOSSA and TRACK Deadline Reminder”

The final countdown has started! Don’t wait until the last minute. The deadline for KOSSA and TRACK is January 15. That is the Monday we celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. We will still pull information as scheduled. Tuesday, January 16 will be too late to find out something didn’t work.

Remember: before you try to run reports, imports and changes in TEDS update overnight. Get ahead of the countdown. Set an early deadline for yourself. Get it done by Wednesday, January 10. That way, you can check everything on Thursday and still have time to verify any additional updates on Friday without working and worrying over the weekend.

Timing and communication are key. No data hostages allowed! The deadline is January 15, 2018. Don’t wait. The clock is ticking… Now, go back and read this one again because you KNOW you were singing or humming the whole time you were reading this.😊

Don’t COUNT Me Out

(Marvin Sapp)

“Preparatory Status”

Hi! My name is Joe Student. I enrolled for the credits you said I needed to be able to KOSSA test in my pathway. I’m getting a little worried. Please don’t count me out. Are you sure you counted my credits correctly? Did you remember to mark me as preparatory?

Be sure you are properly marking student status. It is important to review and verify student records. Every CTE student is “Exploring” until they meet the definition for Preparatory.

“Preparatory” means the student has, at bare minimum, completed two credits (evidenced on the transcript) in a valid career pathway and has enrolled to earn the third credit (evidenced on a current year schedule) for the same pathway. As you update your student data in preparation for KOSSA and TRACK, make sure you are following the guidelines and properly identifying your students.

Now is a good time to check, especially if you have a large number of students. Here’s a hint: start with your seniors and work your way down.
It may seem a bit early to discuss graduation, but…

Graduation is a big deal to most students. End of year parties… family celebrations… final plans for next steps: training, parties, apprenticeships, parties, college…

Data is a factor. Clean and accurate data are the last impression we leave with our students. Not only does it matter whether we have properly granted students their appropriate credits, but it also matters that the credits are properly coded.

That means that all credits earned should be identified on a students’ official transcript using valid state course codes. Schools and universities use these codes to determine articulated credits, dual credit and for making placement decisions. If the numbers don’t match, the student often doesn’t get credit for their hard work.

Don’t leave a student wondering, “Who can I count on?”

You get the idea. We are here to help. You can count on me (us) to guide you when you are lost. Just reach out.

**COUNT On Me**
(Bruno Mars)
“Contact Us”

If you ever find yourself stuck in the middle of the sea,
I’ll sail the world to find you
If you ever find yourself lost in the dark and you can’t see,
I’ll be the light to guide you…

How could CTE have benefited Calvin?

Pre-Nursing, PLTW Engineering, Media Arts…
Transportation, Graphic Design, Design Engineering…

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