It really feels a little strange lamenting going back to a workplace, especially as we enter the summer months. But times are changing. I pray that this is something we will never have to experience again. I pray that by this time next year we are looking back on “that time we finally came together and worked out a solution that was beneficial to all”. COVID-19 has brought out the best in some people and, sadly, the worst in others. We are also experiencing issues of race and class some of us chose to believe were no longer a problem. I have much I can say on this subject, but, as I am speaking to family, I say again, as I did last month: We may have differing ideas of what it will take to get to the other side of this storm, but as we look for solutions, relief and peaceful normalcy (whatever that will look like), I ask that we remain kind to one another. Each of us will emerge, in our own way, from this storm. It is very important to see beyond what is seen at first glance. What we are seeing in our streets right now is a big deal. It is not somebody else’s problem. It is our opportunity. Our opportunity to stand together. Our opportunity to show compassion and empathy. Our opportunity to get back to business. Not as usual, but better and together for our children and our future. I’m ready to get started. So, I say take me home country roads. It’s time to be a better example.
I know. Technically, we’ve BEEN home for a long time now. But home has also been work. Before we let that part go, there are a few things to tidy up. I promise, it’s not much to do, but it is important that it be done correctly. Many have sent emails asking, “Is that all we have to do? It seemed like so much more before”. Well, yes, that is all. It was much more, but our new automation takes over where you now stop. You are still required to verify the following:

- **School deadline.** Do you know when your school's Infinite Campus will close for the year? If you don’t know, find out. You need to complete your last export before that date. You may have problems with exports after that.
- **Credits.** What shows on the transcript at the end of the year BEFORE you leave for the summer?
- **Student Objective.** Is this student exploring or a concentrator? Are you sure?

Many of us are at the point where our school buildings feel more like the home we want to get back to, instead of the other way around. If you’re thinking I’ll take care of it soon as I get home, make sure you don’t wait too long. Although we have had a shift in locations, our data timelines have not changed much, but it is always best to check the [Secondary Schools Timeline](#) on the main TEDS website to be sure.
It’s Automated. TEDS Is Getting Smarter

We have smart phones, smart cars, and even smart homes. So, why not a smart (at least smarter) TEDS? In a smart home, you tell a system what you want it to do and it does it for you. Now, of course, you can’t tell the stove to turn on a light or have the garage door set the alarm. You must be specific in what you tell it to do. After all, the “smart” is based on the information it is given. We strive to keep you from unnecessary work. On September 1, 2019, we began the automation of terminations and the identification of best records for Perkins accountability (federal indicators) for all high schools, CTCs and ATCs. You can no longer alter this information manually, and it has been removed from your view in TEDS. Additionally, do not do terminations or end dates on the TEDS tab in IC. Terminations in IC are the job of the schoolwide or district level IC coordinator. However, the tasks you do have are more important. Why? Because how smart TEDS is depends on the data it is fed. During training, I have often said that programs are only as smart as their programmers. Data entry is a part of programming. Let’s make sure we give TEDS accurate pictures of home. Now can anyone say, “clean data is important”?

How Clean Is Your Data?

“A chair is still a chair, even when there’s no one sittin’ there…” However, it is... still empty. Most TEDS users are not responsible for every pathway in the school and some are not responsible for any. That means we must determine who should be sitting in the chair. Otherwise your data house is not a home for the pertinent information you need. As you determine who should be in the chair, keep these things in mind:

♦ When students are enrolled in pathways, the correct credit hours must be posted. Then, they must be updated when anything about the student record changes.

♦ When a student earns an industry certification for their chosen pathway, it should be properly entered in TEDS the same school year it is earned.

♦ Once a student meets the definition of concentrator, that should be properly noted in IC and imported into TEDS when it happens. Do the same if that status changes back to exploring.

♦ The TEDS vs. IC Data Cheat Sheet is your friend

The point is, we don’t want empty or broken chairs (data). Let’s fill those seats with good information. We have made it easier with the automation, but remember, once the automation runs, it will be too late to correct or update data. For the sake of your data, make sure to observe all closing tasks, then have someone else (peer, immediate supervisor or anyone else with knowledge of what you’re doing and how it should look) check your work.
**Phasing Out Pathways**

We don’t yet know what it will look like when we get back to school in the fall, but we still want to make sure no kid comes back to find nobody home in their pathway. Check on whether you have pathways that are being phased out. There are some basic rules for dealing with phased out pathways.

- An asterisk (*) is placed next to the name of a pathway that is being phased out
- When a pathway is being phased out, new pathways are not automatically added.
- Once the pathway is identified for phaseout, schools will have two years to either get students currently enrolled in the pathway to completion status or move the students to a different pathway.
- Unless you are absolutely certain what your replacement will be, select all suggested replacements for your phased-out pathway. For complete details on the phaseout process and to see which pathways were or will be phased out and when, please review the [Pathway Phase Out Process](#).

**Adding and Removing Pathways**

Are you sure how your home is built? Do you know what pathways you are offering for 2020-2021? We are currently in the window for adding and removing pathways. Now is the time to check and double check your offerings. We have an additional hurdle with working from home, but it is all digital. It’s time for you to communicate with ALL individuals (leadership, teachers, etc.) who work with CTE (virtually, of course) to make sure you have the correct pathways listed in your TEDS. If you need to update your list, follow the instructions for how to Request to ADD or REMOVE a Pathway. Do it now. Let’s hold ourselves to the same standards to which we hold our students. No excuses.

**Contact Us**

Home is where the heart is. I have long learned that CTE is family. Family is where you should be able to go when there is nowhere else to turn. In this time of uncertainty, we must stick together. We want to help our students be successful. If you are uncertain about what to do to ensure your CTE, TEDS, Perkins or transition readiness data is accurate, call us. We can all honestly say to you, “Honey, I’m home”. Together, we will get through this.

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<tr>
<th>Career Readiness</th>
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<tr>
<td>Scott U'Sellis</td>
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State Conference (KACTE)

A Message from KACTE (May 28, 2020)

The Kentucky Association for Career and Technical Education (KACTE) is discussing options for the 2020 Career and Technical Education (CTE) Summer Program. Staff is comfortable in its belief that there will be CTE professional development available around the dates July 26-29, 2020. It also is clear that uncontrolled mass gatherings will not be advisable, regardless of permissibility, by those dates.

While cancellation was considered, there are alternatives to manage professional development in lieu of traditional conferences. What was not considered was postponement. The variables of when, where and availability of participants made this unfeasible. KACTE has met with education leaders, colleague organizations, hotel executives, Louisville Convention and Visitors’ Bureau, and service vendors. A plan for conducting the professional development is under construction. There are several options, or a hybrid of options, under consideration.

KACTE understands that the decision must be forthcoming within the next couple weeks, not only to execute a plan but also to give participants an opportunity to plan and prepare.

A big question is registration fees. A move to live streaming (synchronous) or asynchronous (recorded) professional development would eliminate significant expenses (notably food and beverage), but it would create new expenses for recording, converting and availability of professional development. Those costs will require maintenance of a registration fee at some level, and only registrants will be provided with continuing education certificates of participation.

KACTE appreciates your patience, and we are impressed that 75 percent of the Galt House room block has been reserved and more than 1,100 CTE teachers and administrators have registered for the conference. It is obvious that CTE professionals want their continuing education program. With a little more patience — and more research — a plan for the 2020 CTE Summer Program should be available in early June.