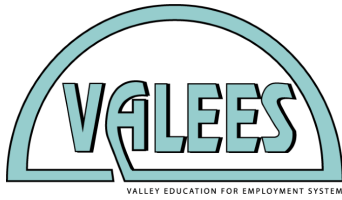


## Building Partnerships for America’s Future: A CTE Professional Development Conference

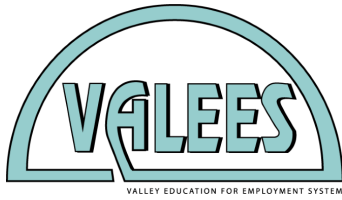
VALEES regional Career and Technical Education teachers, their core subject counterparts, counselors, instructional support personnel, administrators, and representatives of special populations are welcome to a day of professional development focused on the Perkins V quality components of a CTE system.

<b><u>When:</u></b>	Friday, February 28, 2025
<b><u>Where:</u></b>	Waubonsee Community College, Sugar Grove Campus - Academic and Professional Center (APC)
<b><u>Professional Development:</u></b>	PD form is only given for 5 hours.

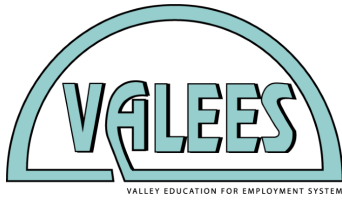
7:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.	Registration and Continental Breakfast - APC Event Room
8:00 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.	Welcome
8:15 a.m. - 9:10 a.m.  APC Event Room	<b>CTE - Working Wonders Showcase</b> In this showcase style opening session, VALEES member district high schools, Career Centers and Waubonsee Community College will highlight the best of the best in CTE programming, career development practices, work-based learning experiences, and much more. You will leave this general session inspired by the wonders being worked in CTE across the VALEES region and with new ideas for your program and school.
9:20 a.m. - 10:20 a.m.	Session 1
APC 260	<b>Authentic Assessment: Developing Formative Self-Assessments</b> This session focuses on various forms of assessment in CTE. It will include practical strategies and ready to use resources for accessing students in multiple ways. Session one will focus on developing formative self-assessment for CTE courses. <b>Presenter:</b> Bill Rose, NIU Illinois CTE Project



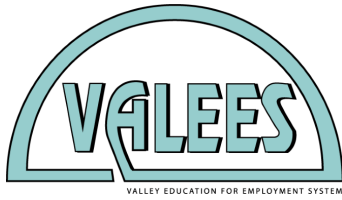
<p>APC 180</p>	<p><b>Culinary Arts and Restaurant Management Business Advisory Meeting</b>          Regional secondary and post-secondary teachers of culinary arts and restaurant management coursework should attend this business and industry advisory meeting. Representatives from local employers hiring in restaurant positions will also attend to share their perspectives on employment, technology trends, and must have technical and employability skills. This workshop meets during sessions 1 and 2. If you choose this session, you will not see a session 2 selection.  <b>Presenter:</b> Linda Brennan, West Aurora High School  <b>Double Blocked Sessions 1 and 2</b></p>
<p>APC 270</p>	<p><b>Designing Engagement: Using Unit Organizers and Lesson Plan Templates to Captivate Students</b>          This interactive session provides an overview of the Unit Plan Organizer, an editable document, strategies on how to effectively implement it in the classroom, and showcases the many resources linked to the template. Participants will have the opportunity to participate in discussions centered around the process of unit planning and implementation ideas with colleagues.  <b>Presenter:</b> Betsy Westergreen, NIU Illinois CTE Project</p>
<p>APC 190</p>	<p><b>Digital Marketing: The Skills Your Students Need Now!</b>          This workshop will introduce high school teachers to the new Waubonsee Digital Marketing Certificate, an 18-credit hour program designed to equip students with knowledge and hands-on experience in the rapidly changing field. The certificate focuses on key areas such as social media marketing, creating ethically responsible marketing campaigns, and leveraging artificial intelligence (AI) to effectively reach target audiences. Teachers will participate in an interactive discussion on current strategies and will learn how to prepare students for in-demand careers in digital marketing. Participants will also explore how they can help students navigate and excel in this evolving industry.  <b>Presenters:</b> Andy Clements and Dr. Nour Al Naber, Waubonsee Community College</p>
<p>APC 194</p>	<p><b>Early Childhood Education: Teacher Roundtable</b>          Teachers will share and exchange resources, curriculum ideas, and teaching strategies used in early childhood education</p>



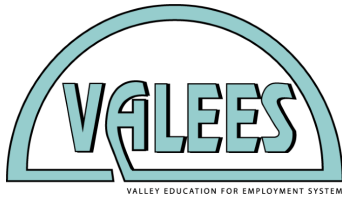
	<p>courses. Bring a curriculum map, scope and sequence, rubrics, lesson plans and other resources that work well in your classroom to share with your colleagues. <b>Presenter:</b> Meghan Jones, West Aurora High School</p>
<p>APC 158</p>	<p><b>Figma for Graphic Designers</b> Join us for an engaging workshop designed specifically for high school graphic communications instructors. In this hands-on session, participants will be introduced to Figma, a powerful web-based design tool that streamlines collaboration and creativity. Discover how to create stunning visuals, prototype interactive designs, and incorporate design thinking into your curriculum. We'll explore essential features, practical tips, and best practices. This workshop will equip you with the tools to get started using Figma and inspire the next generation of graphic designers. This workshop meets during sessions 1 and 2. If you choose this session, you will not see a session 2 selection. <b>Presenter:</b> Debra Kayes Halpern, Waubonsee Community College <b>Double Blocked Sessions 1 and 2</b></p>
<p>APC 160</p>	<p><b>From Soft to Essential, Skills for Classroom Success and Beyond</b> While our programs often excel at incorporating technical skills in the classroom, employers are seeing skill gaps with new hires in areas including reliability, communication skills, organizational skills, and critical thinking. Faculty might agree that students in their classrooms are lacking these skills as well! Join us as we talk about ways to incorporate these Essential Skills into the curriculum giving students the foundation they need for success in the classroom and beyond. <b>Presenters:</b> Dr. Alyson Gaspar and Andrea Montgomery, Waubonsee Community College</p>
<p>APC 258</p>	<p><b>Middle School Counselor Roundtable: Implementing the 6th-8th Grade PaCE Framework</b> Middle School counselors and teachers, who support the implementation of the 6th-8th grade PaCE framework, come to this session to share ideas and resources! Angie Koontz, Somonauk Middle School counselor, will facilitate a discussion and sharing of resources to support the implementation of the</p>



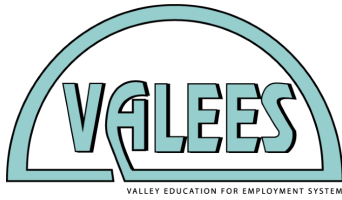
	<p>6th-8th grade PaCE Framework. Bring your best practices, ideas, and questions. This is a time to share and learn from other schools.</p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Angie Koontz, Somonauk Middle School</p>
APC 170	<p><b>Team-Based Challenges 101</b> This workshop will provide educators with a better understanding of team-based challenges and how to utilize them within their classrooms to facilitate more authentic, industry-based learning experiences. Participants will learn how to construct and facilitate effective team-based challenges. The session will provide teachers with ready to use team-based challenges and related resources for any CTE classroom. Looking to provide career and college pathway endorsements to students? Team-based challenges are a requirement. By attending this workshop, you'll feel prepared to offer team-based challenges in your classroom right away.</p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Jenny Wold, FCAE District 2 Program Advisor</p>
10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m	Session 2
APC 260	<p><b>Authentic Assessment: Developing Summative Assessments</b> Session two of Authentic Assessment includes practical strategies and ready to use resources to design authentic summative assessments. Educators do not have to attend session 1 to attend this session 2.</p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Bill Rose, NIU Illinois CTE Project</p>
ESports Arena Fieldhouse 213	<p><b>CIS Curriculum Updates: Cybersecurity, Esports Arena, UX/UI</b> Join Waubonsee Community College faculty in the Esports Arena as they explain updates to the Computer Information Systems (CIS) curriculum including new course development in the existing cybersecurity program, new course and program development in the UX/UI field and a tour of the Esports Arena.</p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> Amy Chaaban, Eamon Newman and Jason Rochon, Waubonsee Community College</p>



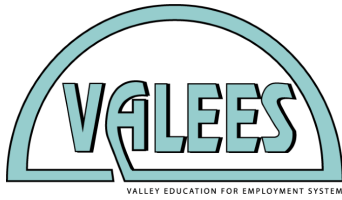
<p>APC 180</p>	<p><b>Culinary Arts and Restaurant Management Business Advisory Meeting</b>          Regional secondary and post-secondary teachers of culinary arts and restaurant management coursework should attend this business and industry advisory meeting. Representatives from local employers hiring in restaurant positions will also attend to share their perspectives on employment, technology trends, and must have technical and employability skills. This workshop meets during sessions 1 and 2. If you choose this session, you will not see a session 2 selection.  <b>Presenter:</b> Linda Brennan, West Aurora High School  <b>Double Blocked Sessions 1 and 2</b></p>
<p>APC 270</p>	<p><b>Culturally Responsive Teaching in CTE</b>          Creating an inclusive classroom allows CTE teachers to recognize the importance of including students from all cultural backgrounds in all aspects of their learning. CTE teachers will learn strategies to incorporate culturally responsive teaching into their classrooms by making learning culturally relevant, building relationships, and planning lessons.  <b>Presenter:</b> Shavina Baker, NIU Illinois CTE Project</p>
<p>APC 258</p>	<p><b>Designing Authentic Learning Experiences for Middle School</b>          Through authentic learning experience design, the middle school student question “when will I ever use this in real life?” is answered. Whether you are currently designing authentic learning experiences and want to enhance your practice or whether you’re new to designing authentic experiences, this session will provide practical applications from a former middle school teacher. This session is also open to high school educators with an interest in designing authentic learning experiences.  <b>Presenter:</b> Dr. Jason Klein, Northern Illinois University</p>



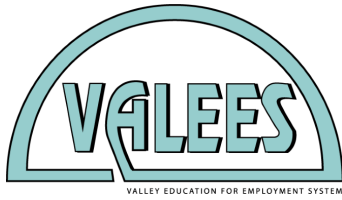
<p>APC 190</p>	<p><b>Enhancing Classroom Experiences with ChatGPT: Building Courses, Creating Policies, and Designing Assignments and Rubrics</b></p> <p>In this hands-on session, educators will explore how to leverage ChatGPT to enrich course design, streamline syllabus creation, and develop effective assignments and rubrics tailored to their instructional goals. Participants will learn practical ways to integrate ChatGPT into the planning process, from generating engaging syllabus content and clear policy statements to crafting creative, interactive assignments that enhance student engagement. The session will also cover the creation of customized rubrics, enabling teachers to evaluate student work consistently and effectively. By the end of the session, attendees will leave with a toolkit of strategies for: Building comprehensive course outlines with AI support; crafting syllabus policies that are clear, inclusive, and aligned with institutional standards; designing diverse assignments that encourage critical thinking and collaboration; developing rubrics that provide clear evaluation criteria, support objective grading, and promote student growth.</p> <p><b>Please Note:</b> Teachers should bring their laptops to fully participate in the session activities. This will allow for hands-on experience and the chance to work directly on course materials during the session.</p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Dr. Nour Al Naber, Waubonsee Community College</p>
<p>APC 194</p>	<p><b>Fashion: Teacher Roundtable</b></p> <p>Teachers will share and exchange resources, curriculum ideas, and teaching strategies used in clothing, fashion design and fashion merchandising courses. Bring a curriculum map, scope and sequence, rubrics, lesson plans and other resources that work well in your classroom to share with your colleagues.</p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Monica Hernandez and Brittany Thomas, West Aurora High School</p>
<p>APC 158</p>	<p><b>Figma for Graphic Designers</b></p> <p>Join us for an engaging workshop designed specifically for high school graphic communications instructors. In this hands-on session, participants will be introduced to Figma, a powerful web-based design tool that streamlines collaboration and creativity. Discover how to create stunning visuals, prototype interactive designs, and incorporate design thinking into your curriculum. We'll explore essential features, practical tips, and</p>



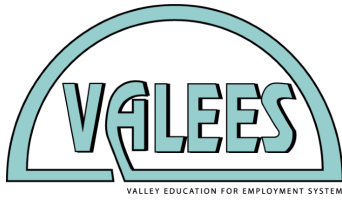
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<p>APC 160</p>	<p><b>Health Professions and Public Services (HPPS) Programs at Waubonsee Community College</b>          As the labor market demand for health care and public safety workers grows, learn what programs your local community college offers, how those programs are aligned to industry and employment through licensure, credentials and certifications, and be prepared with relevant and current postsecondary and career information as you support middle and high school students exploring careers or developing an individualized career plan that culminates in a HPPS career program.  <b>Presenters:</b> Bob Cofield and Dr. Mary Beth Hutches, Waubonsee Community College</p>
<p>APC 280</p>	<p><b>Preparing Your Students for Success in College-Level Accounting</b>          Join Waubonsee Community College Professor of Accounting Catherine Collins as she shares the content and learning expectations of ACC 101 Introduction to Accounting. This session is especially important for those offering high school courses that articulate to ACC 101, but would also be helpful for any business teacher offering accounting content in a high school program. Learn what knowledge and skills are most important for student success in higher levels of college accounting. There will be time for participant curriculum questions.  <b>Presenter:</b> Catherine Collins, Waubonsee Community College</p>
<p>11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.</p>	<p>Lunch</p>
<p>12:20 p.m. - 1:20 p.m.</p>	<p>Session 3</p>
<p>APC 280</p>	<p><b>Accounting and Business Advisory Meeting</b></p>



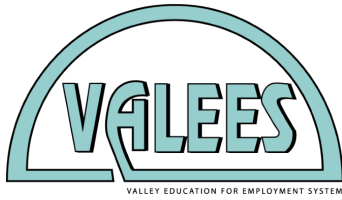
	<p>Regional secondary and post-secondary teachers of accounting and business coursework should attend this joint business and industry advisory meeting. Representatives from local employers hiring for accounting and business positions will also attend to share their perspectives on employment, technology trends, and must have technical and employability skills. The business advisory meets during sessions 3 and 4. If you choose this session, you will not see a session 4 selection.</p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> Andy Clements, Waubonsee Community College and Bobby Kaminski, Oswego East High School</p>
<p>Akerlow Hall Auto Shop Room 103</p>	<p><b>Automotive Technology: Scan Tools and AUT 100</b> For high school automotive technology teachers, Waubonsee Community College faculty will review curriculum changes to the early college credit course AUT 100 Maintenance and Light Repair and demo a variety of scan tools currently available and used in the college degree and certificate programs. The workshop meets during sessions 3 and 4. If you choose this session, you will not see a session 4 selection.</p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> Tyler Friedland and Guy Tiberio, Waubonsee Community College</p> <p><b>Double Blocked Sessions 3 and 4</b></p>
<p>APC 158</p>	<p><b>Construction Trades &amp; Woodworking: Teacher Roundtable</b> Teachers of Building and Construction Trades and Woodworking Programs join your colleagues to share resources. Dave and Kevin will start the session by sharing resources they use and consider best practices in Construction Trades and Woodworking/Cabinet Making programs. Then they will facilitate the sharing of resources attendees bring. Please bring copies of a best practice to share. Provide either 15 print copies or be ready to share digital with other attendees.</p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> David Hoskins, Indian Valley Vocational Center and Kevin Pattermann, Oswego High School</p>
<p>APC 260</p>	<p><b>Culturally Responsive Teaching in CTE</b> Creating an inclusive classroom allows CTE teachers to recognize the importance of including students from all cultural backgrounds in all aspects of their learning. CTE teachers will learn strategies to incorporate culturally responsive teaching into their classrooms by making learning culturally relevant, building relationships, and planning lessons.</p>



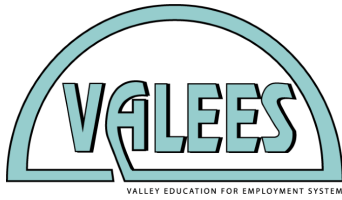
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APC 180	<p><b>Early Childhood Education Business Advisory Meeting</b>  This workshop will equip Early Childhood Education (ECE) teachers with practical occupational therapy strategies to enhance fine and gross motor skills in young children. Participants will learn easy-to-implement activities that promote fine motor coordination, sensory regulation, and strength development within everyday classroom routines. The session will cover age-appropriate exercises that can be seamlessly integrated into circle time, play, and structured learning activities. By the end of the workshop, educators will feel confident using these tools to support children’s physical development in a fun, engaging, and effective way. The workshop meets during session 3 and 4. If you choose this session, you will not see a session 4 selection.  <b>Presenter:</b> Rachel Erikson, Occupational Therapist, Aurora Pediatric  <b>Double Blocked Sessions 3 and 4</b></p>
APC 190	<p><b>Fire Science and EMT-Basic Business Advisory Meeting</b>  Meet with local fire department leaders during the annual business advisory meeting. The business advisory meets during sessions 3 and 4. If you choose this session, you will not see a session 4 selection.  <b>Presenter:</b> Andrea Montgomery, Waubonsee Community College  <b>Double Blocked Sessions 3 and 4</b></p>



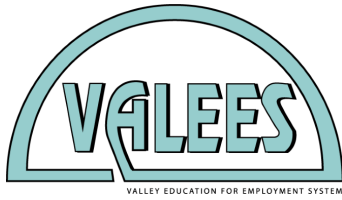
<p>APC 120</p>	<p><b>From High School to Career: Welding Graduates Share Their Journey to Success</b> VALEES regional graduates of high school and Area Career Center welding programs will speak in a panel format. Designed primarily for welding instructors to learn from former students about the path from their CTE program to employment, this session may also interest counselors or others providing career development support to students. <b>Presenters:</b> Tyler Bateman and Austin Fletcher, Fermilab</p>
<p>APC 170</p>	<p><b>Information Technology Business Advisory Meeting</b> Regional secondary and post-secondary teachers of information technology coursework including computer programming, networking and maintenance, cybersecurity and other IT courses should attend this joint business and industry advisory meeting. Representatives from local employers hiring for information technology positions will also attend to share their perspectives on employment, technology trends, and must have technical and employability skills. <b>Presenters:</b> Eamon Newman, Waubonsee Community College and Danielle Wukitsch, Fox Valley Career Center</p>
<p>APC 194</p>	<p><b>Interior Design: Teacher Roundtable</b> Teachers will share and exchange resources, curriculum ideas, and teaching strategies used in interior design courses. Bring a curriculum map, scope and sequence, rubrics, lesson plans and other resources that work well in your classroom to share with your colleagues. <b>Presenter:</b> Jennifer Melendez, Batavia High School</p>
<p>APC 258</p>	<p><b>Middle School Teacher Roundtables</b> In a roundtable format, come share your best practices for middle school CTE instruction and learn from your VALEES regional middle school colleagues. Mike Livorsi and Pattie Pattermann, Kaneland Harter Middle School CTE teachers, will organize teachers into CTE subjects and facilitate small groups. Come prepared with ideas to share and questions for your colleagues.</p>



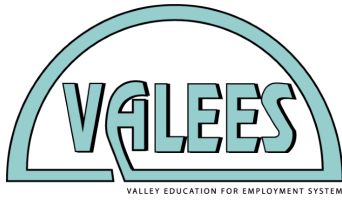
	<p><b>Presenters:</b> Mike Livorsi and Pattie Pattermann, Kaneland Harter Middle School</p>
APC 160	<p><b>Regaining Focus: Hinckley-Big Rock Implements a No Cell Phone Policy</b> Join HBR Superintendent Dr. Jessica Sonntag and CTE Department Chair Tracey Sanderson as they discuss HBR’s new policy and supporting practices to remove distracting personal technology from the classroom and regain student focus. Hear from Dr. Sonntag on the process the district engaged in, including the research reviewed, to prepare and implement the new policy, discuss practical strategies classroom teachers can implement, and leave with ideas for regaining the focus of students. <b>Presenters:</b> Dr. Jessica Sonntag, Superintendent and Tracey Sanderson, Hinckley-Big Rock CUSD #429</p>
1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Session 4
APC 280	<p><b>Accounting and Business Advisory Meeting</b> Regional secondary and post-secondary teachers of accounting and business coursework should attend this joint business and industry advisory meeting. Representatives from local employers hiring for accounting and business positions will also attend to share their perspectives on employment, technology trends, and must have technical and employability skills. The business advisory meets during sessions 3 and 4. If you choose this session, you will not see a session 4 selection. <b>Presenters:</b> Andy Clements, Waubonsee Community College and Bobby Kaminski, Oswego East High School <b>Double Blocked Sessions 3 and 4</b></p>
Akerlow Hall Auto Shop Room 103	<p><b>Automotive Technology: Scan Tools and AUT 100</b> For high school automotive technology teachers, Waubonsee Community College faculty will review curriculum changes to the early college credit course AUT 100 Maintenance and Light Repair and demo a variety of scan tools currently available and used in the college degree and certificate programs. The workshop meets during sessions 3 and 4. If you choose this session, you will not see a session 4 selection.</p>



	<p><b>Presenters:</b> Tyler Friedland and Guy Tiberio, Waubonsee Community College</p> <p><b>Double Blocked Sessions 3 and 4</b></p>
<p>APC 260</p>	<p><b>Creating Team-Based Challenges</b></p> <p>This session offers educators the opportunity to learn about Team-Based Challenges. This session provides an overview and leads educators through the process of the steps involved in creating a Team-Based Challenge as required for the ISBE College and Career Pathway Endorsements. Educators will learn about how to incorporate strategies to collaborate with expert industry partners for their Challenge, plan for student assessment, and action steps on how to implement Team-Based Challenges in the classroom.</p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Ben Owen, Oswego SD 308</p>
<p>APC 180</p>	<p><b>Early Childhood Education Business Advisory Meeting</b></p> <p>This workshop will equip Early Childhood Education (ECE) teachers with practical occupational therapy strategies to enhance fine and gross motor skills in young children. Participants will learn easy-to-implement activities that promote fine motor coordination, sensory regulation, and strength development within everyday classroom routines. The session will cover age-appropriate exercises that can be seamlessly integrated into circle time, play, and structured learning activities. By the end of the workshop, educators will feel confident using these tools to support children’s physical development in a fun, engaging, and effective way. The workshop meets during session 3 and 4. If you choose this session, you will not see a session 4 selection.</p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Rachel Erikson, Occupational Therapist, Aurora Pediatric</p> <p><b>Double Blocked Sessions 3 and 4</b></p>
<p>APC 258</p>	<p><b>Employability Competencies in Middle School?!? What Next, Trig in Kindergarten?!?</b></p> <p>Why would middle school programs incorporate the <a href="#">Illinois essential employability competencies</a> with students too young to work? Come explore with Dr. Jason Klein, former middle school teacher and principal, the Illinois essential employability competencies and see the links between school success,</p>



	<p>employment readiness, and the SEL abilities we all need to thrive as people in the modern world. It's all connected! This session is also open to high school educators with an interest in the essential employability competencies.</p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Dr. Jason Klein, Northern Illinois University</p>
<p>APC 190</p>	<p><b>Fire Science and EMT-Basic Business Advisory</b> Meet with local fire department leaders during the annual business advisory meeting. The business advisory meets during sessions 3 and 4. If you choose this session, you will not see a session 4 selection.</p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Andrea Montgomery, Waubonsee Community College</p> <p><b>Double Blocked Sessions 3 and 4</b></p>
<p>APC 120</p>	<p><b>An Introduction to Enhancing Learning with SchoolAI</b> In this session, teachers will discover how AI can transform their classroom experiences. The session introduces SchoolAI's powerful features, such as Assistants that help with lesson planning and administrative tasks, and Tools that provide data-driven insights for monitoring student progress. Teachers will also explore Spaces, interactive chatbots designed to engage students in immersive, self-paced learning activities that foster curiosity and exploration. Educators will leave with practical skills to integrate these AI solutions into their teaching, enhancing lesson interactivity and adaptability to individual student needs. They'll learn strategies to utilize AI for assessing student progress and offering personalized feedback, helping each student reach their full potential. Additionally, this session equips teachers with the knowledge to leverage the SchoolAI platform, empowering them to create more engaging and inclusive learning environments.</p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> John Alesch, Plano High School</p>
<p>APC 194</p>	<p><b>Troubleshooting the College and Career Pathway Endorsement (CCPE) Application</b> Most VALEES regional member school districts submitted a CCPE application to ISBE in December. If ISBE has responded to district applications with corrections, Josi Moran will facilitate a sharing of application responses and troubleshooting for correcting and resubmitting applications. Bring your application feedback from ISBE and get help on your resubmission. This</p>



	<p>session will be canceled if ISBE has not responded to applications by Friday, February 21, 2025. In that event, you will choose a new session 4 when you arrive at the conference. <b>Presenter:</b> Josi Moran, VALEES</p>
<p>APC 158</p>	<p><b>Work-Based Learning Roundtable: Dispelling Myths Employers Hold</b> Using resources from the December GCAMP and VALEES workshop intended to dispel myths employers hold about employing 16 and 17 year olds or hosting them in Work-Based Learning, Sarah Pottinger, Yorkville High School, and Christine Burgin, Indian Valley Vocational Center, will lead participants through the Illinois DOL regulations and US DOL regulations using <a href="#">Child Labor Bulletin 101</a>. While the law limits what 16 and 17 year olds can do in hazardous occupations, there are far more opportunities for the employment of 16 and 17 year olds than there are restrictions. Learn what they are and how to reference the US DOL bulletin when speaking to employer partners about work-based learning. <b>Presenters:</b> Sarah Pottinger, Yorkville High School and Morgan Goetschel, Fox Valley Career Center</p>