Labor as a Strategic Partner in Public Advocacy
Presented By:

Chelsea Mason, Moderator

- Susan A. Palmer, Trustee, Renton Technical College
- Jackie Boschok, Trustee, Green River College
- Tom Lux, Trustee, Shoreline Community College
- Mark P. Martinez, Trustee, Clover Park Technical College
- Beth Thew, Trustee, Community Colleges of Spokane
ACCT Leadership Congress

#ACCT2019
Examples of Union Represented Industries:

- Administration
- Aerospace
- Agriculture
- Construction
- Education
- Energy
- Film
- Forestry
- Grocery/Retail
- Healthcare
- Hotel & Hospitality
- Information Technology
- Musicians
- Parks & Recreation
- Public Service
- Transportation & Logistics
Washington State Community & Technical Colleges

Washington State has 30 College Districts and 34 Community & Technical Colleges.

370,000 students attend our Community & Technical Colleges.

Trustees are appointed by the Governor to serve 5 year terms and are subject to Senate Confirmation.

State law requires a Labor Trustee to serve on Technical College Boards:
- Bates Technical College
- Bellingham Technical College
- Clover Park Technical College
- Lake WA Institute of Technology
- Renton Technical College

State law requires a Labor Representative to serve on the State Board for Community & Technical Colleges.
Examples: Where Labor Advocates for CTCs

- **GOVERNMENT**
  - programs
  - policies
  - funding

- **COMMUNITY**
  - awareness
  - partnerships
  - support

- **EDUCATION**
  - engagement
  - promotion
  - mentorship
Why We’re Invested

• Our members are Community & Technical College (CTC) students

• Our members are CTC staff & faculty

• Union industries rely on a strong CTC system

• Registered apprenticeships are integrated with CTCs

• We believe in access & opportunity for all students and workers
Advocacy Assets

- Relationships with elected officials and other leaders
- Community group partners
- Engaged and accessible members
- State-wide and regional networks (federations) of unions
- Labor lobbyist coalitions
Bridging Advocacy Between Agencies & Boards

Labor sits on many boards and committees focused on education, workforce development and supporting the community.
Help Moving the Needle: Capital Projects

CTC construction projects create family wage jobs in local communities. Labor is an ally in helping secure capital funding.

Bates to break ground on new building

Speakers included the Mayor of Tacoma, leadership of Bates Technical College, Pierce County Building & Construction Trades Council Executive Secretary Mark Martinez, and others.
Help Moving the Needle: Student & System Support

Labor was a key CTC partner in a landmark advocacy campaign to increase funding for:

- Student Scholarships
- High Demand Programs
- Faculty Salary Increases
- Incumbent Worker Training
- Career Connected Learning

Legislature Creates Washington College Grant Scholarship Program to Help Families Afford College & Apprenticeships; Expands Community College

April 28, 2019
Help Moving the Needle: Community Awareness

One of Washington’s faculty unions led a public campaign in 2019 to raise awareness about the need to (re-)invest in community & technical colleges. It included education, rallies, lobbying, media outreach and more.
Building a Bridge with Labor in Your State

RESOURCES & RELATIONSHIPS

- State AFL-CIO
- County or Regional Central Labor Councils
- State Building Trades Councils
- County or Regional Building Trades Councils
- Staff & Faculty Unions

OPPORTUNITIES TO INCLUDE LABOR

- State CTC Governing Board
- College Boards of Trustees
- Advisory Committees
- Foundation Boards
Want to be a part of an ACCT Labor Caucus?

Sign up today or contact:

Kairie Pierce, Workforce Development Director
Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO

kpierce@wslc.org

Kairie can also help connect you with labor partners in your community.