

Olympia School District Career & Technical Education



Making Headlines & Nurturing Hope

Recent Headlines

- **“Struggling Students Want Vocational Education, Poll Shows”**
- **“Survey reports academic challenges not the primary reason for dropout”**
- **“Miss America touts career-tech as integral to her success”**
- **“CTE a bridge to postsecondary education for many students”**

Recent Headlines

- **“Career plans by age 12? Maybe in Florida”**
- **“Outlook good for many CTE careers, according to Money magazine”**
- **“Report: Academics important, but what about other skills?”**
- **“Depending on the district, electives like CTE becoming fewer”**
- **“Legislative Alert: Bush Budget Proposes to Dismantle Perkins”**

The Crux of the Issue

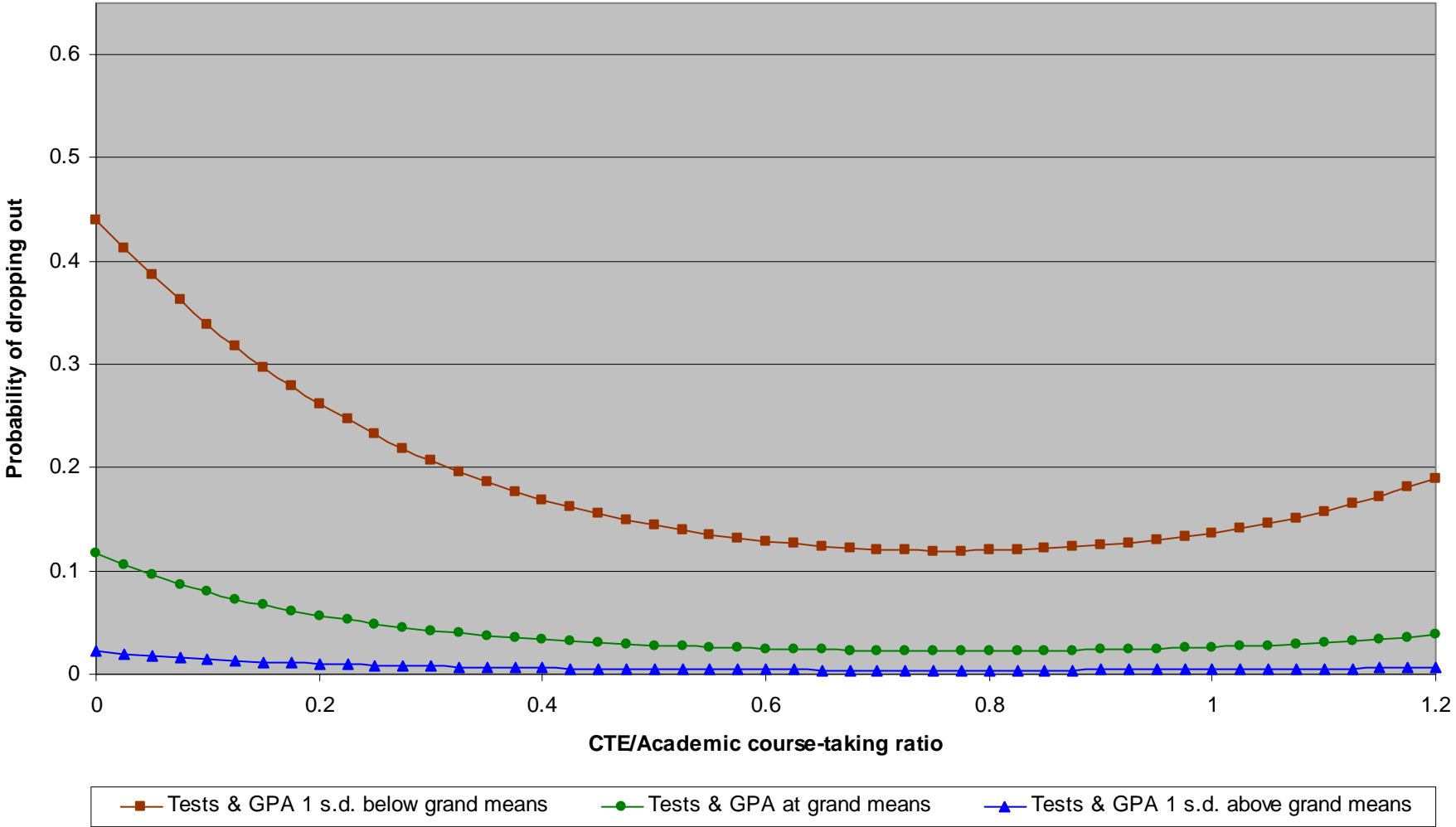
- More and more political pressure & accountability to:
 - increase academic success
 - prepare all students for entrance to college (whether they want to go or not)
- Policymakers and school leaders are looking for resources to tackle academic woes
- Increased graduation requirements and “double dipping” academic courses limits the time students have to take career tech

OSD Career Tech

“Why Should Students Take Career Tech?”

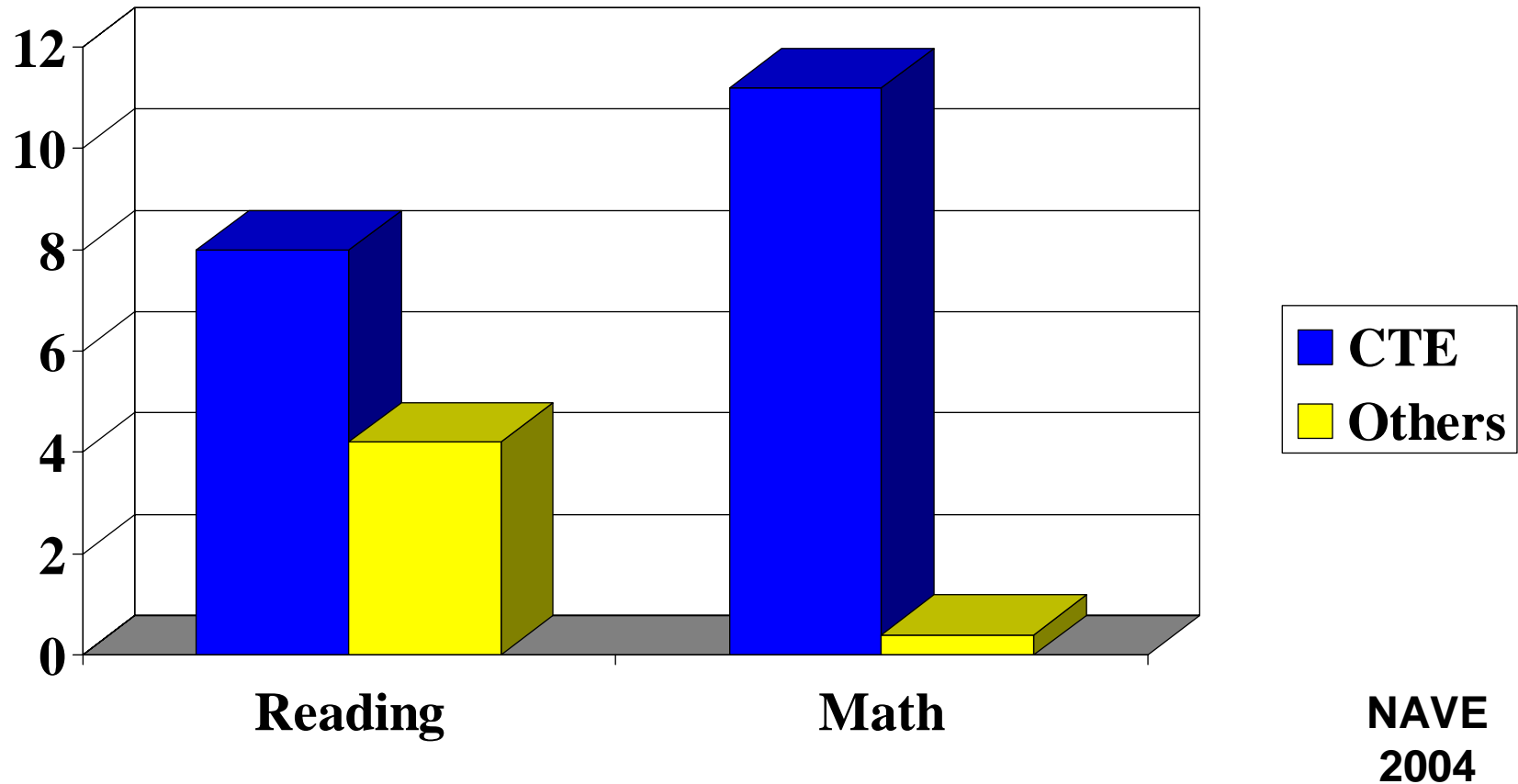
- Fun, relevant, creative classes keep students coming to school, and doing better here**

Career Tech Students are Less Likely to Drop Out



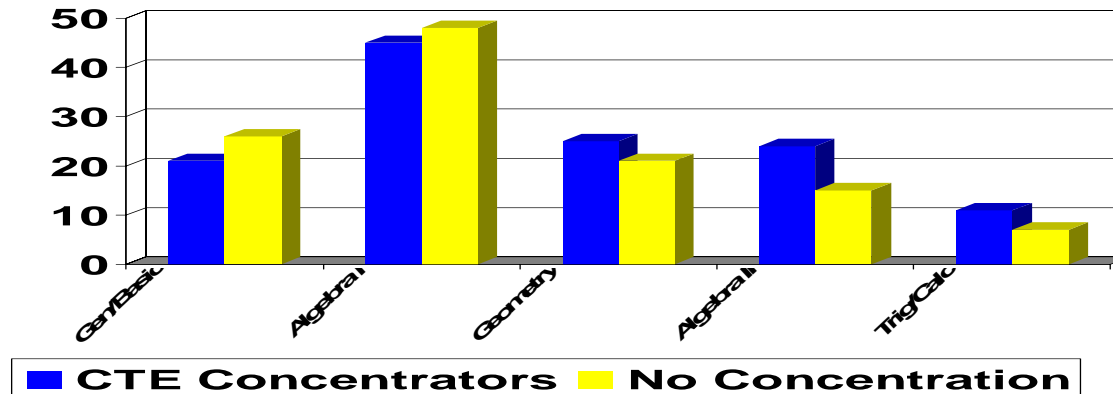
Career Tech Students are Improving Academically

% Change in NAEP 94-00

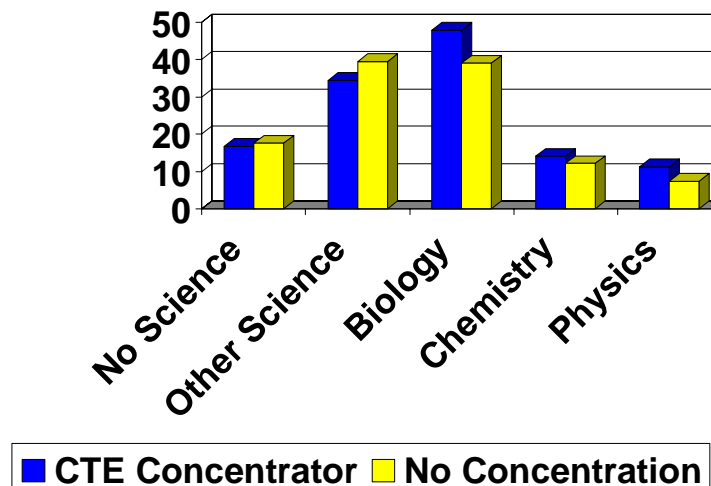


Career Tech Students Take Tougher Math & Science Courses

Math Participation by Concentration 1999



Science Course Taking by Concentration

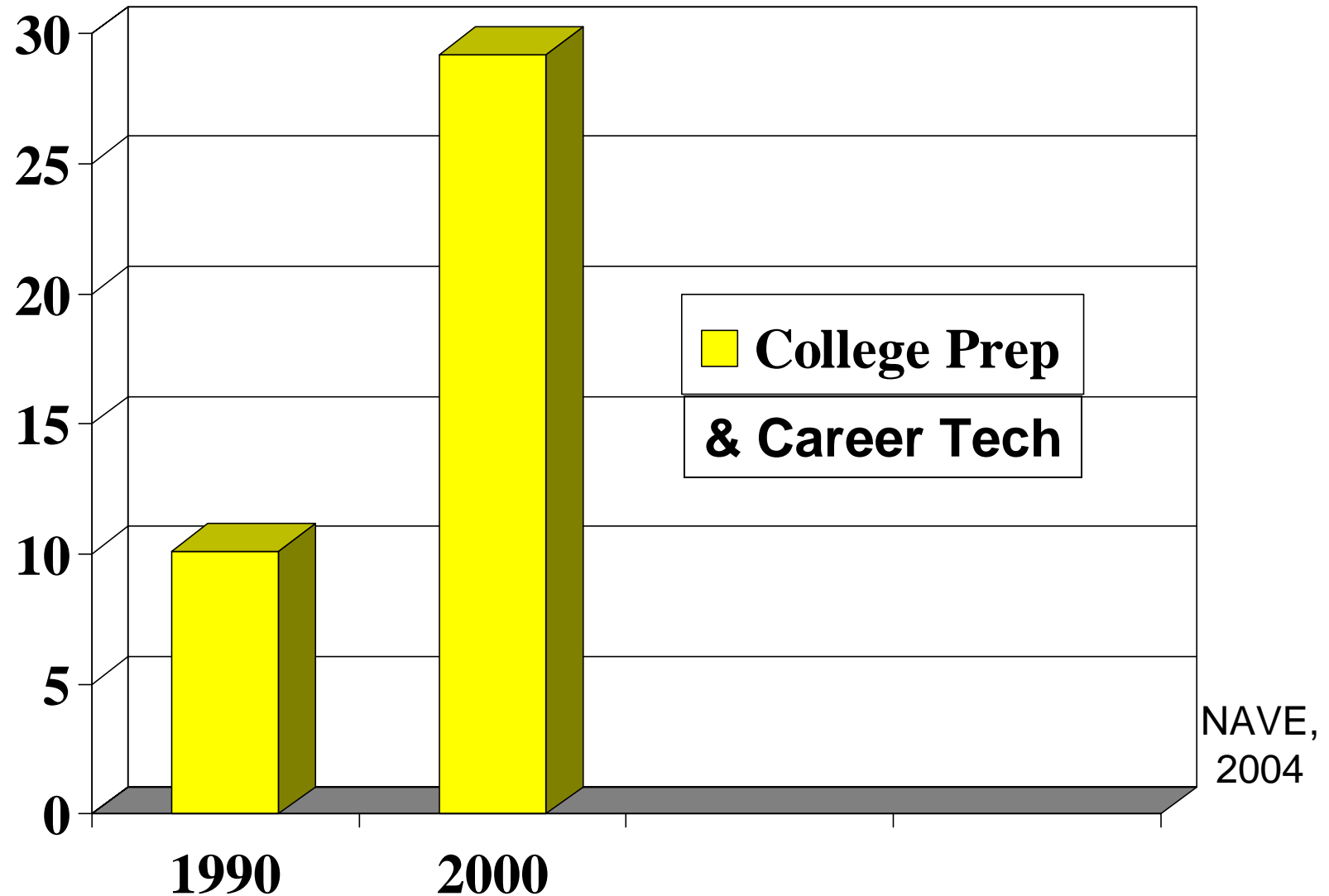


OSD Career Tech

Why Should Students Take Career Tech?

- Fun, relevant, creative classes keep students coming to school, and doing better here
- **Preparation for careers and college entrance**

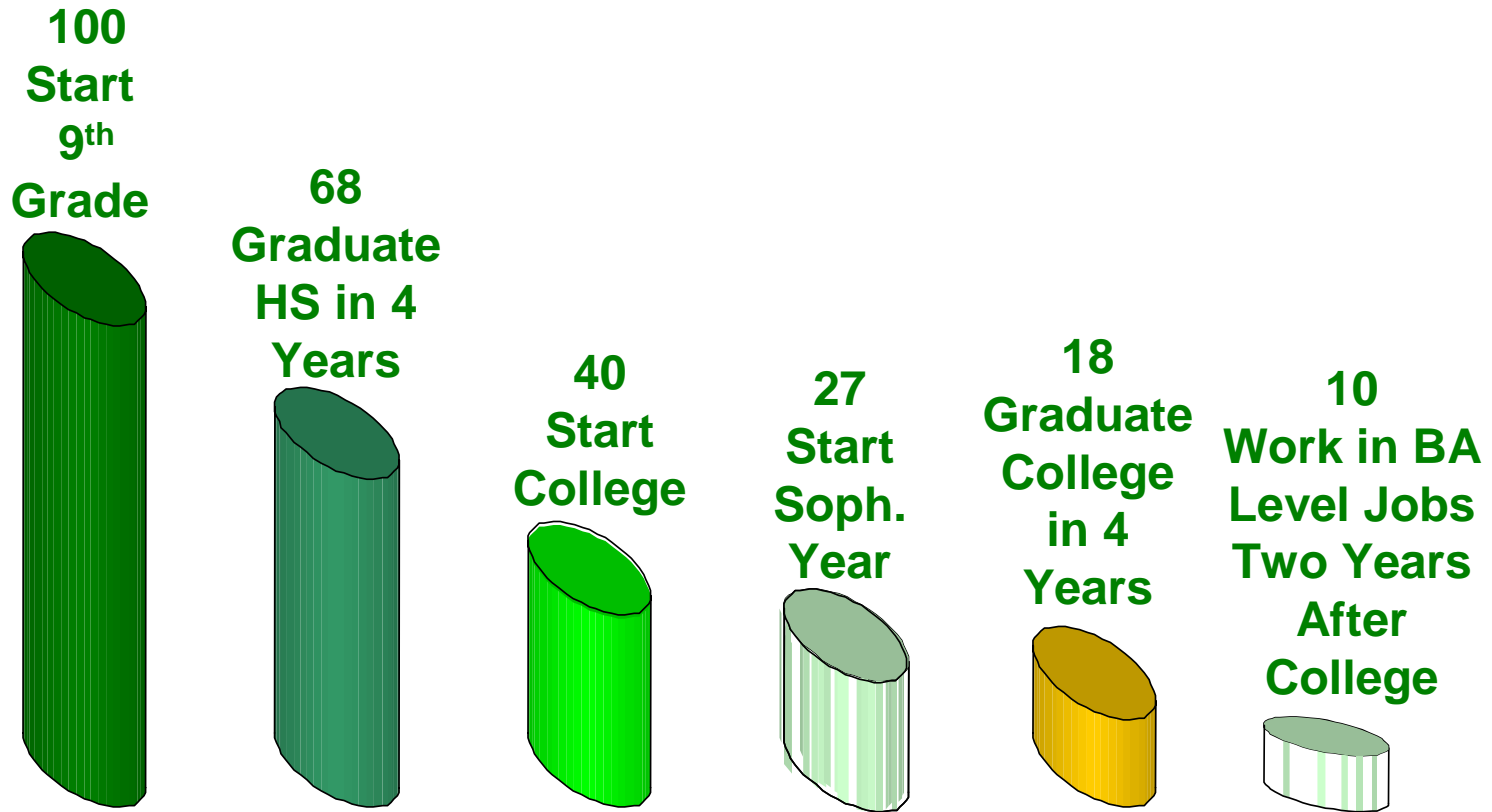
More & More Career Tech Students are “Double Majoring”



Career Tech Students Can Earn Free College Credits – at High School!

- **“Tech Prep” with So. Puget Sound CC**
- **20+ HS Career Tech courses approved**
- **Students must earn “B” or better at HS**
- **Last year Olympia School District HS students earned 880 SPSCC credits**
- **\$60K+ tuition savings to HS families**

Four Year College Degrees Aren't for Everyone



Source: Education Weekly March 2005

OSD Career Tech

Why Should Students Take Career Tech?

- Fun, relevant, creative classes keep students coming to school, and doing better here
- Opportunity to prepare for career success and college entrance
- **Increase earning power** (helps cover college expenses too)

Short & Intermediate Term Labor Market Effects

HS Career Tech Concentrators earn:

- 12% extra one year after graduating
- 8% extra seven years later
- True both for students who did and did not pursue post-secondary education.
- Computer courses had particularly large effects on earnings eight years after graduating.
- Public investment in Career Tech was recovered 2.5 years after graduation



CHS Career Tech

Why Should Students Take Career Tech?

- Fun, relevant, creative classes keep students coming to school, and doing better here
- Opportunity to prepare for career success and college entrance
- Increase earning power (helps cover college expenses too)
- **Prepare for industry skills certification**
- ***Culminating Project*** graduation requirement
- ***High School & Beyond Plan*** graduation requirement
- ***Occupational Education &/or Elective*** grad. rqts.

Hope – New State Legislation

- **\$ to upgrade or replace equipment (\$15/student)**
- **SHB 2973 requires high schools to adopt equivalencies for CTE courses**
- **ESSB 6475 contains four WASL alternative assessment methods, one of which is CTE related**
- **SHB 2973 re-evaluates graduation requirements for students in vocationally intensive and rigorous CTE programs**

Conclusions

- **Career Tech keeps students in school and increases their achievement**
- **Career Tech prepares students for careers and college**
- **Career Tech has economic benefits to students and the community**
- **Career Tech is gaining political momentum in our state**
- **Career Tech is the right thing to do, now more than ever**

