

News especially for PAFCS members

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EVENTS

HUGS Mentor/Mentee Mtg
January 7, 2024 7 PM
March 3, 2024 7 PM

PAFCS Conference
April 12-13, 2024
Central Penn College
Summerdale PA

Hello PAFCS Member!

Thank you for being a member of the Pennsylvania Association of Family and Consumer Sciences.

We appreciate your participation in the network of FCS professionals advocating for the value and positive effect that FCS has on individuals, families, and community.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Erika Graham (Pine-Richland SD) has been mentoring a long-term emergency-certified FCS educator who holds a BS in political sciences. Erika has inspired her mentee to seek certification as an FCS teacher and credits Michelle Tweardy's IUP FCS Peer-Mentor Pilot Program with helping to prepare Erika as a mentor. Erika is on the cutting edge of great ideas and inspiration! Way to go! She's changing the world one person at a time and making a difference in FCS! Congratulations Erika!

HELPING FCS STUDENTS

Messiah University FCS students are interested in making some short demonstration or content-related video clips that might be used in the FCS classroom. If you are an FCS teacher and have some ideas for useful content, please contact Raeann Hamon at rhamon@messiah.edu. We also have an enthusiastic FCS major (sophomore) who is very interested in visiting high school FCS classes or participating in career days, either in person or remotely, so let us know if you're interested in a visit or if we can help.

PAFCS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

PAFCS is sponsoring a conference April 12-13, 2024 at Central Penn College in Summerdale PA. Workshop topics include ChatGPT/AI, Personal Finance for Women, STEM, and ideas for innovative lesson-planning. Visit the PAFCS [website](#) for more information and to [register](#).

As a result of a collaborative effort between the PAFCS Conference Planning Committee, Leadership Team, and Finance Committee, the April 12-13, 2024 conference registration costs have been reduced by \$100. The PAFCS Board of Directors is continually seeking ways to support our members and share the benefits of membership with others across the Commonwealth.

CONTACT US WITH YOUR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IDEA

Do you have an idea for a professional development workshop? Contact us and we'll make it happen!

PAFCS DISTRICT NEWS

On November 4th, members met at Parkland HS for an Eastern Region Meeting. Special thanks goes to Bethany Pepe for hosting. Participants heard sessions about textiles and best practices in FCS sewing classrooms and updates from PDE.

Jean Kelleher shared a Call-to-Action request from the FCS Division of ACTE, FCCLA and AAFCS which have partnered together to bring you a wide array of resources to help you answer the National Career Clusters Framework Survey. Please find the resources, including the *Why we need to advocate for the FCS Cluster* [video](https://fcclainc.org/engage/say-yes-fcs/fcs-missing-piece) (<https://fcclainc.org/engage/say-yes-fcs/fcs-missing-piece>). Continue to use this page as your 1-stop shop for advocating for FCS and an FCS Cluster. There will be additional resources including sample letters that you can customize and send to State CTE Directors, Legislators, Advance CTE, etc.

JUST FOR MEMBERS

Take advantage of your membership by participating in a new AAFCS Webinar Series: [Powering the Profession: Emerging Trends and Topics](#). This series will explore emerging trends and topics of interest to FCS professionals across multiple content areas. The virtual sessions are led by a panel of industry experts and are designed to provide you with valuable, compelling information to become a more informed consumer and professional. Sessions will be recorded and made available for on-demand viewing. PDUs will be available. *Exclusively For Members*: Visit the AAFCS website to take advantage of the [webinar library](#).

PAFCS AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS - 2024

Nomination Forms for Awards, Scholarships, and PAFCS Standards of Excellence are available on our [website](#) ([About Our Affiliate – Recognition](#)). Submissions are due by January 10, 2024.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Did you know that there's a MONTHLY membership payment option for individuals with a degree or professional-level credential in any FCS field of study? The professional membership rate is broken into 12 payments of just \$12.50/month. Email membership@aafcs.org to request to enroll in this option. The 1st year introductory special does not apply.

PAFCS has gained 11 members since our last conference!

Incoming members should remember that there is a new (or returning) member discount at only \$100! You must join AAFCS to be a member of the PA Affiliate. Financial support to join is available through the PAFCS program GEMS and/or the AAFCS Community of Elementary, Secondary and Adult Education Membership Incentive. Contact the Membership Chair at plhetrick2@gmail.com for more details and links to these options. There is also an AAFCS payment plan, but the discount does not apply. There are many benefits of membership, the greatest of which is the support of our profession and multiple professional development opportunities from AAFCS and PAFCS.

Concerning Act 48 Hours

Any AAFCS/PAFCS Member in good standing may access educational programs through AAFCS and PAFCS. These professional development programs in the form of webinars, workshops, and conferences are all eligible for Act 48 hours reported through PAFCS. For AAFCS events (webinars live and archived, workshops, conferences), if there is a PDU certificate issued, PAFCS will report those as Act 48 hours. Simply send the title and a copy of the PDU certificate to request an evaluation from the Professional Development Chair (plhetrick2@gmail.com).

If there are other programs you have attended that “add to or reinforce the Family and Consumer Sciences Body of Knowledge,” consider contacting the Professional Development Chair (plhetrick2@gmail.com) for Act 48 hours.

Several organizations record the Act 48 hours for you. Here are a few suggestions:

1. The programs from the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia. Consider joining the Federal Reserve's mailing list. There is a free session, *Learning, Earning, and Investing*, on December 6 from 5-8:30 PM at the Federal Reserve Bank in Philadelphia. Presented by Todd Zartman, these workshops are phenomenal.
2. Programs from Making Cents are presented virtually by Hilary Hunt. Consider signing onto her [mailing list](#) to remain informed about financial education programs.

Concerning Certification

AAFCS offers several certification options that help identify you as the expert. A test is required and once achieved you would be required to achieve 75 professional development hours in your area over 3 years and pay a maintenance fee. Any course FCS-specific is eligible for Act 48 hours and can be self-reported as PDUs. The list of workshops that qualify (including doing professional presentations) is extensive.

Tests are offered online, at specific testing sites, at the AAFCS Conference, AAFCS Leadership training, and at the PAFCS conference in April at a reduced price from the other options. You may take one of three tests offered through AAFCS and must register online with AAFCS for that test before our conference in April. Tests offered include CFCS Certified in FCS, CNWE Certified Nutrition and Wellness Educator, and CPFPE Certified Personal and Family Financial Educator.

Visit our [PAFCS website](#) for more news.

If you want to become more involved with the Association by becoming a committee member, Advisory Board/Board member, or you have comments you would like to share, please contact one of the Executive Board members. We welcome your talent, creativity, experience, and ideas.

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