

BUILDING futures

A Publication of the Fresno Unified School District

A C H I E V I N G O U R G R E A T E S T P O T E N T I A L

SPECIAL EDITION: FOCUS ON CAREER PATHWAYS

District is Leader in CTE Programs and Career Exploration Options

Fresno Unified has recently launched a new strategic plan that reinforces its commitment to investing in meaningful career-themed training for students.

Known as “CTE” – career technical education – Fresno Unified continues to be a leader in preparing students for careers and higher education through pathways and programs. Students in Fresno Unified have the opportunity to explore, through hands on experiences, a wide variety of careers and jobs.

College and career readiness programs are on full display throughout this edition of Building Futures.

The district’s dedication to relevant education is apparent in the Fresno Unified Board of Education’s approval a year ago of a new strategic plan, outlining [vision and mission statements and values and strategic goals](#). The new strategic plan provides a road map for district staff and the community toward a collective effort and shared direction, and outlines ways that the district intends to grow.

The strategic plan was developed after many hours of gathering feedback from different stakeholders in the

community, including students, parents, staff and members of local business and industry. The feedback represented a wide variety of ideas and suggestions for the future and common themes were identified.

One of the consistent themes from many different stakeholders was the importance of providing meaningful career preparation experiences for students. Far from simply learning about the different types of careers that exist, feedback indicated that stakeholders want students to learn and develop career skills through industry-aligned, hands-on experiences, both at school and out in the community.

In looking at the district’s newly approved strategic plan, this feedback is reflected in the strategic goals that the board adopted for the district. Take a brief glance at these [goals](#), and it’s clear that “student-centered and real-world learning experiences” and “increasing student engagement in their school and community” are some of the district’s key focuses.

The district continues to invest in the facilities necessary for meaningful career themed training for its students.

It recently celebrated the grand opening of the state-of-the-art Career Technical Education Building at Fresno High School. Other exciting facility projects are underway at Duncan Polytechnical High School, where the district recently broke ground for a new medical careers training facility.

In addition, new CTE buildings are planned for Edison and Sunnyside high schools.

Take a few minutes to review this edition of Building Futures to learn more about the CTE classes and program that nearly 13,000 Fresno Unified students are taking advantage of, taught by talented and dedicated CTE teachers -- 120 district wide.

Throughout the district, 899 business and industry partners are investing into schools, pathways, and students to help create future opportunities for students and the community. Collectively, the district and its partners are building a pipeline of skilled talent and providing the leaders of tomorrow. Together, they are creating opportunities for students and staff to achieve at their highest potential.

32 Schools Selected for Vaccination Clinics

Thirty-two elementary campuses were selected for free Pfizer COVID-19 vaccination clinics by the California Department of Public Health.

The campuses were selected based on where communities have had the lowest turn-out for vaccinations or have had limited access. The clinics are for students as young as 5 following

the Food and Drug Administration’s emergency authorization of the Pfizer shots for younger children.

The shot clinics are limited to Fresno

Unified students and staff at the sites selected by the state. COVID-19 booster shots and flu shots are also available. Parents must be with their student to receive the COVID-19 vaccine and the flu shot. The clinics will conclude in December.

For those not connected with where an onsite clinic is being held, vaccinations are being offered at the Fresno County Department of Public Health (by appointment), St. Agnes Medical Center, Sierra Pacific Orthopedic Center, UC Merced Fresno Center and

UCSF Fresno.

More information on Fresno Unified's protocols and resources regarding COVID-19 can be found on the [COVID-19 webpage](#).

CTE Teacher Kevin Williams

Gaston Middle School

Teaches Technology/Engineering

"I get to teach my students 21st century skills that will be beneficial to them getting jobs in the future."



CTE Teacher Yesenia Madrid

Tehipite Middle School

Teaches Information Technology and Spanish

"I enjoy teaching CTE because I get to teach my students skills that they are going to need in the workforce, as well as the opportunities that exist with vocational education."



CTE Teacher Bitor Bravo Pena

Sunnyside High School

Teaches Agriscience

"Growing up on a dairy farm, agriculture was always around me. In high school I went through an agriculture pathway and FFA program. It was here where my agriculture teachers really sparked my interest in pursuing a career in agriculture education. Now I teach what I love and I see the same spark in my students when we work with our plant projects."



CTE Teacher Aaron Ramirez

DeWolf High School

Teaches Construction

“As a baseball coach, I have always been drawn to students and I love the relationships that have been formed in the process. As a CTE teacher I’m able to build the same kind of relationships while passing down the skills I have learned working in the industry.”



CTE Teacher Dorothy McLean

Bullard High School

Teaches CTE PBS and Biology

“This is a second career for me, and I am fulfilled daily when I see the look in my students’ eyes, when they finally understand a concept. My students are like gems that need to be polished daily to exhibit their brilliance. They just need someone to believe in them and I do believe ALL my students are capable of succeeding.”



Informed Parents Help Guide Students to Career Pathways, Programs

Parents can play a critical role in helping students pursue career technical education (CTE) – whether it be a pathway, program or courses.

Participating in CTE programs can enhance a student’s educational experience by focusing on preparation for college and career success. How can parents help their students prepare for the real world? Suggestions include:

- Talk with them about their aspirations, passions, strengths and weaknesses
- Discuss ideas about what types of things they might want to do “when they grow up”
- Research opportunities, including enrichment opportunities, CTE classes at middle and high schools, and Linked Learning pathways
- available throughout the district
- If a student shows interest in a career but has some weaknesses that might create a roadblock, help them think of ways to develop their skills in that area and encourage them to take advantage of job shadow and volunteer opportunities with local businesses; contact your high school career center for resources
- Complete transfer/school choice paperwork prior to the Dec. 1 deadline for the following school year; visit fresnounified.org under Parents and Transfers Office for more information on school choice options, deadlines and applications
- Attend parent information events and showcases throughout the district and community
- Communicate with teachers and counselors on ways to best support a student’s academic and career aspirations
- Ask your seventh and eighth grade students to share their career assessment completed on the Xello platform; visit go/clever (from school) or go.fresnou.org/clever (everywhere else) to access a variety of College and Career Readiness resources
- Attend Parent University workshops to learn more about district opportunities; contact Parent University at (559) 457-3390 for more information on upcoming workshops

The wide variety of CTE programs and courses in Fresno Unified and careers available to students leaves them with many choices, and it is important to consider the individual student and the

options at schools.

Once students are enrolled in a pathway, consistent communication between school and home can help them finish successfully and be prepared for their future beyond high school. For more information on CTE programs, contact College and Career Readiness at (559) 248-7466.

Los Padres Informados Ayudan a Guiar a los Estudiantes Sobre Vías de Carreras Profesionales y Oportunidades

Los padres pueden desempeñar un papel importante para ayudar a los estudiantes a obtener la educación de carrera técnica (CTE) – ya sea a través de vías académicas, programa o cursos.

La participación en los programas CTE puede ampliar la experiencia educativa de los estudiantes a través del enfoque sobre la preparación para el colegio y una profesión exitosa. ¿Cómo pueden ayudar los padres a sus estudiantes a prepararse para el mundo real?

Sugerencias incluyen:

- Hablar con ellos acerca de sus aspiraciones, pasiones, fortalezas y debilidades.
- Discutir ideas acerca del tipo de cosas que ellos posiblemente desean hacer “cuando crezcan”.
- Investigar las oportunidades, incluyendo oportunidades de enriquecimiento, clases CTE en las escuelas secundarias y preparatorias y vías de Enlace de Aprendizaje disponibles a través del distrito.
- Si un estudiante muestra interés en una carrera, pero tiene algunas debilidades que le pudieran crear un obstáculo, ayúdelo a pensar en las maneras de desarrollar sus habilidades en esa área y motívelo para que tome ventaja de las oportunidades de observación laboral y voluntariado con empresas locales; comuníquese con el centro de carreras de escuela preparatoria, acerca de recursos.

- Completar la documentación de transferencia/escuela de preferencia antes de la fecha límite del 1ro de diciembre para el próximo ciclo escolar; para más información sobre la fecha límite y solicitudes de opciones de escuela de preferencia, entre al sitio de; fresnounified.org bajo Parents and Transfers Office.
- Asistir a los eventos y exhibiciones de información para padres en todo el distrito y la comunidad.
- Comunicarse con los maestros y consejeros sobre las maneras de apoyar mejor las aspiraciones y carrera académica de un estudiante.
- Pídale a su estudiante de séptimo y octavo grado que comparta las evaluaciones de su Carrera completadas en la Plataforma Xello; para obtener acceso a una variedad de recursos de Colegios/ Universidades y Preparación de Carrera visite; go/clever (desde la escuela) o go.fresnou.org/clever (en cualquier otro lugar).
- Asistir a los talleres de Universidad Para Padres para aprender más acerca de las oportunidades del distrito; para más información sobre los próximos talleres comuníquese con Universidad Para Padres al (559) 457-3390.

La amplia variedad de programas y cursos CTE de Fresno Unificado y carreras disponibles, les deja a los estudiantes muchas opciones y es importante considerar al estudiante individualmente y las opciones en las escuelas.

Una vez que los estudiantes son inscritos en la vía de carreras profesionales, la comunicación consistente entre la escuela y el hogar les puede ayudar a terminar exitosamente y estar preparados para su futuro más allá de la preparatoria. Para más información sobre los programas de CTE, comuníquese con el Departamento de College and Career Readiness al (559) 248-7466.

Cov Niam Txiv Uas Twb Kawm Paub Lawm Pab Coj Kev Rau Cov Tub Ntxhais Kawm Ntawm Mus Rau Cov Kev Haujlwm Thiab Cov Hwj tсам Zoo

Cov niam txiv kuj tuaj yeem koom nrog pab cov tub ntxhais kawm mus nrhiav kev kawm txuj ci ua haujlwm (CTE) – txawm tias nws yog ib qhov kev kawm ncaj qha (pathway), kev kawm lossis cov chav kawm.

Kev koom nrog CTE cov kev kawm tuaj yeem pab tus tub ntxhais kawm txoj kev kawm los ntawm qhov kev rau siab npaj rau qhov kev kawm qib siab (college) thiab haujlwm kom tiav. Cov niam txiv yuav pab tau lawv cov menyuam npaj rau qhov yuav mus kawm ua haujlwm tiag tiag li cas? Cov lus qhia muaj xws li:

- Tham nrog lawv txog lawv cov kev ntshaw, kev nyiam, cov ua tau zoo thiab tsis zoo ntawm tus kheej.
- Sib tham txog cov tswv yim seb dabtsi uas lawv nyiam ua “thaum lawm loj tuaj”
- Hwj tсам kev tshawb fawb, nrog rau cov hwj tсам kev pab txhawb, CTE cov chav kawm nyob theej nrab (middle school) thiab them siab (high school), thiab qhov saum huab cua kev pabcuam (Linked Learning pathways) uas muaj thoob plaus hauv lub hauv paus tsev kawm ntawv
- Yog tias tus menyuam kawm ntawv nyiam raug ib txoj haujlwm tab sis muaj qee yam uas nws keej tsis txaus qhov ntawv yuav ua ib qhov dab tsi los thaiv nws txoj haus kev, pab lawm xav txog cov hauv kev uas los kawm yam txuj ci uas lawv tsis keej thiab txhawb kom lawv mus saib cov neeg ua kiag cov haujlwm lawv nyiam ntawd (job shadowing) thiab ua haujlwm pab dawb nrog rau cov lag luam hauv zos; hu rau koj qhov chaw nrhiav haujlwm haus tsev kawm them siab (high school) rau cov kev pab ntxiv

- Ua kom tiav cov ntaub ntawv hloov chaw/ tsev kawm ua ntej rau Lub Kaum Ob Hlis Tim 1 hnuv kawg rau tom qab xyoo kawm ntawv; mus saib hauv fresnounified.org hauv qab Parents Tab thiab Transfers Office kom paub ntau ntawm tsev kawm ntawv uas yus xaiv tau, cov hnuv kawg thiab cov ntaub ntawv thov rau npe.
 - Mus koom cov koob tsheej uas muaj qhia rau niam txiv thiab koob tsheej nthuav tawm uas lawv muaj (showcases) nyob thooob plaws hauv cheeb tsam tsev kawm ntawv thiab zej zog
 - Sib txuas lus nrog cov xib hwb thiab cov kws pab tawm tswv yim txog txoj hauv kev zoo tshaj los pab txhawb nqa tus tub ntxhais kawm ntawm txoj kev kawm thiab yam haujlwm uas nws nyiam.
 - Hias kom koj tus tub ntxhais kawm qib xya thiab qib yim qhia txog lawv cov kev ntsuas xyuas ua tiav ntawm Xello platform seb yam haujlwm twg yuav hom lawv dua; mus saib go/clever (los ntawm tsev kawm ntawv) lossis go.fresnou.org/clever (nyob txhua qhov chaw) kom nkag mus rau cov txheej txheem ntawm cov ntau hom tsev qib siab (college) thiab cov kev pab ntawm kev npaj ua haujlwm (Career Readiness resources).
 - Mus koom Parents University cov kev cob qhia kom paub ntau ntawm txog tsev kawm ntawv cov hws tsam; hu rau Parents University ntawm (559) 457-3390 kom paub ntawm txog cov kev cob qhia uas yuav muaj tuaj ntawm.
- Muaj ntau yam ntawm CTE cov kev kawm thiab cov chav kawm nyob hauv Fresno Unified thiab cov haujlwm muaj rau cov tub ntxhais kawm ua rau lawv muaj ntau txoj kev xaiv, thiab nws yog ib qhov tseem ceeb uas yuav tau xav txog ib tug menyuam kawm zuz zus thiab cov kev xaiv uas muaj nyob rau ntawm tsev kawm ntawv.
- Thaum cov tub ntxhais kawm rau npe rau ib qho kev kawm lawv nyiam (pathway), kev sib txuas lus ntawm tsev kawm ntawv thiab tsev neeg yuav pab tau lawv kawm tiav thiab npaj rau lawv lub neej yam tom ntej thawm kawv tiav tsev kawm ntawv them siab (high school). Yog xav paub ntawm cov CTE kev kawm, hu rau (College thiab Career Readiness) ntawm (559) 248-7466.

Fresno Unified School District Important Dates

Dec. 1 Transfer Deadline

Dec. 20-Jan. 9 Winter Break

Jan. 10, Feb. 28 and March 21 No School for Students (Professional Learning Days for Staff)

Superintendent's Message

Take Time during the Holidays to Rest and Reconnect

Happy holidays, Fresno Unified family! As we wrap up our first semester back to campuses full-time and in-person, I want to thank each and every one of you for making this semester possible. Thank you to our students for bringing your enthusiasm back to our classrooms and for working so hard to get back into the swing of in-person school. Thank you to each of our teachers and staff members who show up every day creating a safe and positive environment for our students. Thank you to our administrators who have been grinding through as you've dealt with countless COVID protocols, contact tracing, helping students to get reacclimated, and dealing with burnout amongst your teams and families. And thank you to our community for helping to keep our campuses safe

through partnerships and doing your part to stop the spread of COVID-19.

My gratitude and positivity do not ignore the reality that this school year has been even harder than last year for many of us. The ongoing pandemic, mandates, continually updated health guidance, political tensions, contact tracing and quarantines, substitute shortages and the tough readjustment back to in-person learning for students, staff and parents are pushing so many of us past our limits. Burnout is real and it must be combatted both with solutions to the issues we're facing, as well as intentional mental wellness care.

While we continue to implement more streamlined processes that keep more students and staff safely at school, as

we continue building our substitute pools, as we adjust schedules for the second semester, and we implement more learning lag mitigations – including an expanded winter session – I ask that each of you take advantage of the mental health resources available to our students, families and staff.

For students and families, please [visit our website by clicking here](#) to learn more about the resources at your fingertips. You'll be able to [submit a referral for social emotional support](#), contact [Care Solace](#) to find programs and counseling services and find other resources across our community.

For staff, please check out [the Employee Assistant Program \(EAP\)](#), which provides confidential counseling for employees and eligible

family members. EAP provides five free sessions and a small copay for additional sessions. To get started, speak with an experienced counselor 24 hours a day, seven days a week: (800) 834-3773. You can find access to more long-term mental health and substance abuse services through [Halcyon Behavioral](#). The district's plan allows for up to 60 sessions per year.

If you or a loved one is struggling and need help immediately, please use the following resources:

[Central Valley Suicide Hotline: 1-888-506-5991](#)

[Connect with a Crisis Counselor by Texting "HOME" to 741741](#)

[Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-TALK \(1-800-273-8255\)](#)

It's been a rollercoaster since March of 2020, and we could all use as much support as we can get these days. I hope you take time this winter break to set some healthy boundaries, make intentional time to rest and spend time with your loved ones while you unplug from the demands of the rest of the world. Have a safe and happy holiday season. We love you Fresno Unified family!

Date Tiempo durante los Días Festivos para Descansar y Reconectarte

¡Felices días festivos, Familia de Fresno Unificado! Al concluir nuestro primer semestre de regreso a los planteles a tiempo completo y en persona. Quiero agradecer a todos y cada uno de ustedes por haber hecho posible este semestre. Gracias a nuestros estudiantes por traer de nuevo su entusiasmo a nuestras aulas y por trabajar tan duro para volver al ritmo de la escuela presencial. Gracias a cada uno de nuestros profesores y miembros del personal que se presentan cada día creando un ambiente seguro y positivo para nuestros estudiantes. Gracias a nuestros administradores que se han esforzado al máximo para hacer frente a los innumerables protocolos de COVID, al rastreo de contactos, ayudando a los estudiantes a readaptarse y afrontando el agotamiento entre sus equipos y familias. Y gracias a nuestra

comunidad por ayudar a mantener nuestros planteles seguros a través de asociaciones y por hacer su parte para detener la propagación del COVID-19.

Mi gratitud y positivismo no ignoran la realidad de que este año escolar ha sido aún más difícil que el año anterior para muchos de nosotros. La pandemia en curso, los mandatos, las normas sanitarias continuamente actualizadas, las tensiones políticas, el rastreo de contactos y las cuarentenas, la falta de sustitutos y a la dura readaptación al aprendizaje en persona para los alumnos, el personal y los padres están llevando a muchos de nosotros más allá de nuestros límites. El agotamiento es real y debe ser combatido tanto con soluciones a los problemas que estamos enfrentando, como con un cuidado intencional del bienestar mental.

Mientras seguimos implementando procesos más perfeccionados que mantengan la seguridad de más estudiantes y personal en la escuela, mientras continuamos construyendo nuestras agrupaciones de sustitutos, mientras ajustamos los horarios del segundo semestre y aplicamos más métodos para solucionar los retrasos en el aprendizaje – Incluyendo una sesión de invierno más amplia – Les pido que cada uno de ustedes aproveche los recursos de salud mental disponibles para nuestros estudiantes, familias y personal.

Para los estudiantes y familias, por favor [visite nuestro sitio web haciendo clic aquí](#) para obtener más información sobre los recursos a su alcance. Usted podrá [enviar una referencia para el apoyo social emocional](#), póngase en contacto con [Care Solace](#) para encontrar programas y servicios de asesoramiento y encontrar otros recursos en nuestra comunidad.

Para el personal, por favor consulte [el Programa de Ayuda al Empleado \(EAP\)](#), el cual ofrece asesoramiento confidencial a los empleados y a los miembros de su familia que reúnan los requisitos necesarios. EAP ofrece cinco sesiones gratuitas y un pequeño co-pago para las sesiones adicionales. Para empezar, hable con un consejero experimentado las 24 horas del día, los siete días de la semana: (800)

834-3773. Puede encontrar acceso a más servicios de salud mental y abuso de sustancias a largo plazo a través de [Halcyon Behavioral](#). El plan del distrito permite hasta 60 sesiones al año.

Si usted o un ser querido tiene problemas y necesita ayuda inmediatamente, por favor use los siguientes recursos:

[Central Valley Suicide Hotline: 1-888-506-5991](#)

[Connect with a Crisis Counselor by Texting "HOME" to 741741](#)

[Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-TALK \(1-800-273-8255\)](#)

Ha sido una montaña rusa desde marzo del 2020, y a todos nos vendría bien todo el apoyo que podamos recibir estos días. Espero que tomes un tiempo en estas vacaciones de invierno para establecer unos límites saludables, dedicar un tiempo intencional a descansar y pasar tiempo con tus seres queridos mientras te desconectas de las exigencias del resto del mundo. Que tengan felices y seguros días festivos. ¡Les apreciamos Familia de Fresno Unificado!

Siv Lub Sij Hawm Ntawm Cov Hnub So Holiday Los So Thiab Rov Sib Ntsib

Zoo siab Happy Holidays, Fresno Unified tsev neeg! Lub caij los txog ntawm kev kawm tiav thawj lub semester kawm ntawv uas peb rov qab tuaj mus rau hauv tsev kawm ntawv puv hnub thiab tim ntseg tim muag, kuv xav ua tsaug rau txhua leej txhua tus uas tau pab ua tiav txog niaj hnub no. Ua tsaug rau peb cov tus ntxhais kawm uas tau muaj kev txaus siab rov tuaj kawm hauv cov chav kawm thiab rau siab heev rov tuaj kawm ntawv tim ntsej tim muag vim yeej tsis yooj yim. Ua tsaug rau txhua tus xib hwb thiab cov neeg ua hauj lwj uas tau tuaj txhua txhua hnub pab tsim kho kev nyab xeeb thiab kev nyob zoo rau peb cov tus ntxhais kawm. Us tsaug rau cov thawj coj uas tau muaj kev txhawb kev tswj nrog cov kev cuam tshuam nyuaj yav dhau los txog COVID cov cai, kev siv hu, pab soj ntsuam cov tus ntxhais

kawm thiab nrog rau qhov kev qaug zog los ntawm koj pab pawg neeg ua hauj lwm thiab cov tsev neeg. Thiab ua tsuag rau peb lub zos uas muaj kev sib koom tes txhawb pab tsev kawm ntawv kom muaj kev nyab xeeb thiab pab los tswj nres kev sib kis kab mob COVID-19.

Kuv qhov kev txaus siab thiab xav zoo yeej nco ntsoov tias lub xyoo no tsev kawm ntawv tau ntsib kev nyuaj tshaj xyoo tas los rau coob leej. Qhov tsis tu ncu ntawm tus kab mob thoob ntiaj nteb, kev tswj hwm, cov kev hloov tshiab tas li ntawm kev noj qab haus huv, kev tsis sib haum xeeb, kev taug qab thiab kev cais tawm kom txhob kis kab mob rau lwm tus, tsis muaj neeg ua hauj lwm txaus, thiab kev hloov kho nyuaj rau cov menyuum rov qab tuaj kawm ntawv tim ntsej tim muag, tsis tas li cov neeg ua hauj lwm thiab cov niam txiv kuj ua tau tej thaum tshaj dhau rau peb. Kev qaug zog yeej muaj tiag thiab nws yuav tau tiv thaiv yam li daws cov teeb meem tshwv sim thiab xyuas kom muaj kev nyab xeeb ntawm kev xam ob qho no tib si.

Thaum peb tsim ntxiv cov txheej txheem ua kom coob tus tub ntxhais kawm thiab cov neeg ua hauj lwm muaj kev nyob nyab xeeb hauv tsev kawm ntawv, peb yuav ntxiv cov kws qhia ntawv los yog neeg ua hauj lwm hloov cov mus so ntxiv, kho cov sij hawm rau lub semester ob, thiab peb muaj kho txhab ntxiv cov kawm poob qab – nrog rau kev kawm nthuav ntxiv rau lub caij ntuj no (winter session) –

kuv xav kom txhua tus los siv peb cov kev pab cuam muaj txhawb rau kev puas hlawb kev xav uas muaj rau peb cov tus ntxhais kawm, cov tsev neeg thiab cov neeg ua hauj lwm.

Hais rau cov tus ntxhais kawm thiab tsev neeg, thov [nias ntawm no mus saib peb lub website](#) kom paub ntxiv txog cov txheej txheem muaj nyob ntawm ntsis tes. Koj yuav tso npe [mus thov keb pab txhawb siab nstws txog kev sib raug zoo siab nstws](#), hu rau [Care Solace](#) nrhiav cov kev pab cuam thiab cov kws pab tswv yim nrog rau lwm hom khoos kas uas muaj nyob hauv peb lub zos.

Hais rau cov neeg ua hauj lwm, thov tshawb xyuas [ntawm Employee Assistant Program \(EAP\)](#), uas muaj cov kws tawm tswv yim rau cov neeg ua hauj lwm tsis pub qhia tawm thiab koj tsev neeg uas tsim nyog txais kev pab. EAP pub tsib zaug ntsib (sessions) uas yog dawb thiab yog mus tshaj ntawd ces them me ntsis nqi (copay). Xav pib, tham nrog tus kws pab tawm tswv yim 24 teev tauj ib hnub, xya hnub ntawm ib lub lim tiam: (800) 824-3773. Koj yuav nrhiav ntau kev txhawb ntxiv los ntawm [Halcyon Behavioral](#) mus ntev pab kev puas hlawb ntawm thiab kev siv yeeb tshuaj. Lub hauv pauv tsev kawm ntawv qhov kev pab muaj txog 60 zaug ib xyoo.

Yog koj los sis ib tus uas koj hlub muaj kev nyuaj siab thiab xav yuav kev pab sai sai, thov siv cov kev pab cuam hauv qab no:

[Central Valley Suicide Hotline: 1-888-506-5991](#)

[Txuas nrog ib tug kws pab Crisis Counselor ntaus/Texting “HOME” rau 741741](#)

[Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-TALK \(1-800-273-8255\)](#)

Nws yog ib lub sij hawm ntxhov siab thiab nyua heev txij li thawm Lub Peb Hli 2020, li ntawd peb kuj xav tau kev txhawb pab kom tau ntau li tau rau niaj hnub no. Kuv vam thiab ciaj siab tias koj yuav siv lub sij hawm so caij ntuj no (winter break) los kho kom muaj kev noj qab hau hu, los so thiab nyob nrog cov neeg koj hlub tshua thaum nyob nrus deb ntawm cov hauj lwm hauv lub qab ntuj khwb. Thov kom tsuas muaj kev noj qab nyob zoo thaum lub sij hawm peb so. Hlub hlab koj os Fresno Unified tsev neeg.



Robert G. Nelson, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Message from Edgar Blunt, Co-Founder/CEO of IMAGO

Business Partner Applauds Fresno Unified's CTE Efforts

“Would you please tell me more about yourself?” “What are your greatest weaknesses?” and “Why are manhole covers round?” are some of the most common job interview questions. I’ve used these questions in hundreds of job interviews to help me not only get a clearer idea of the job candidate’s hard skills and experience, but also get

a sense for their soft (non-cognitive) skills, such as conversation skills, ability to think quickly and self-reflect, and problem-solving. As you can imagine, these questions often stumped my interviewees. This is a problem that needs solving.

Hello, I’m Edgar Blunt, and I want to live in a world filled with happy

and fulfilled people, where everyone finds value in their experience of life through play, work and meaningful human interactions. This led me and a fellow Hoover High School graduate (“Go Pates!”) to start an education technology company called IMAGO in 2011.

From our headquarters in downtown

Fresno, our mission is to prepare learners of all ages socially and emotionally for their careers, college and communities. Through our digital curricula and training programs, and with the help of our partners, we impacted over a million people nationwide.

Since 2013, we have had the privilege to work alongside our friends at Fresno Unified in the College and Career Readiness (CCR) Department on initiatives so necessary that I wish I could have experienced them when I was in school. However, the next best thing is that my children, and most likely yours if you're reading this article, are currently taking advantage of the groundbreaking programs that were dreamed up, designed, and rolled out with the CCR team.

In 2015, they boldly infused social and emotional learning into the district's Graduate Profile. All of Fresno Unified's CTE students, over 10,000 from grades 7 to 12, now experience lessons that develop the

following skills: self-awareness, social awareness, global awareness, self-management, responsible decision making and relationship skills. These competencies are highly sought after by our community's businesses (and it doesn't hurt in the classroom or home too).

Students who complete these courses are awarded a Workforce Readiness Certificate that is recognized by the Fresno Regional Workforce Investment Board. However, more importantly, students walk away with a better understanding of who they are, what they want for themselves and this world, and why that matters. That student, and our kids, not only will be better prepared to take on life's complex challenges, but when in an interview to start their career, will have no difficulty answering those common interview questions. The future of work in our community is bright, folks, and Fresno Unified's CTE is leading the way!

Challenge: I invite you to answer the

question: Why are manhole covers round? I'll give you a hint – there are six answers.

Answers: Easier to construct; easier to move (can roll); won't fall into its hole; structurally superior (resists compression); easier to slip back into place (no corners to line up); humans are roundish.



Edgar Blunt
Co-Founder/CEO of IMAGO

Focus on Career Pathways

Bullard High School

Linked Learning Pathways

- Biomedicine – science, body systems and medical interventions
- Business, Marketing, and Technology – multimedia, design and sales
- Law and Social Justice – criminal justice and social advocacy

CTE Programs

- Computer Science
- Teacher Academy

CTE Courses

- AP Computer Science
- Cinematography
- Criminal Justice and Law
- Design and Marketing
- Digital Photography I
- Leadership in Law and Social Justice
- Marketing Sales and Service
- Multimedia

- PLTW: Computer Science Essentials
- PLTW: Human Body Systems
- PLTW: Medical Interventions
- Social Justice and Advocacy
- Teacher Academy: The Universal Career
- Video Production

Center for Advanced Research and Technology (CART)

Labs

- Biomedicine
- Biotechnology
- Business and Finance
- Digital Marketing and Entrepreneurship
- Digital Media and Graphic Design
- Digital Video Production and Broadcasting
- Engineering, Manufacturing, and Robotics

- Environmental Science and Field Research
- Forensic Research and Biotechnology
- Interactive Game Design
- Law and Order and Policy
- Psychology and Human Behavior
- Web Application Development

CTE Courses

- Advanced Science Topics
- Advanced Topics in Medical Research
- Advanced Topics in Medicine
- Applications Programming
- Biotechnology Accelerated and Research
- Digital Video Production and Broadcasting
- Digital Media and Graphic Design
- Economics of Marketing and Advertising
- Engineering

- Environmental Science and Technology
- Forensic Research and Biotechnology
- Interactive Game Design
- Law and Order and Public Policy
- Money and Banking
- Physics and Technology
- Psychology and Human Behavior
- Technology Applications
- Technology Applications II

Design Science Middle College High School

CTE Courses at Fresno City College, Reedley College, Clovis Community College and Fresno State

- Adobe After Effects
- Allied Health
- Athletic Training
- Automotive Essentials
- Basic Residential Construction
- Beginning Photoshop
- College and Life Management
- Community Relations
- Conservation of Natural Resources
- Contemporary Health Issues
- Digital Imaging Fundamentals
- Digital Video Production
- Direct Current Fundamentals of Electronics
- Exploring Welding/Metals
- Fire Protection Organization
- Heavy Duty Brake Systems
- Heavy Duty Suspension and Steering
- HVAC Introduction
- Introduction to Business
- Introduction to Criminology
- Introduction to Forestry
- Introduction to Photography
- Lab Safety Practices
- Legal and Ethical Concepts
- Manufacturing Essentials
- Medical Terminology
- Occupational Safety and Health
- Occupational Therapy
- Pharmacology
- Principles and Practices of Teaching Young Children
- Programmable Logic Controllers
- Reading and Composition
- Retailing
- Storyboarding

Duncan – Innovative Design and Applied Technology Academy (IDATA)

Linked Learning Pathways

- IDATA
 - Automotive Technology
 - Construction Technology
 - Heavy Truck Technology
 - Manufacturing Technology
 - Welding Fabrication

CTE Courses

- Introduction to Design
- Concepts of Design
- WBL: Computer Integrated Manufacturing
- WBL3: Computer Integrated Mechatronics
- WBL: Construction Technology - Exterior
- WBL3: Construction Technology - Interior
- WBL: Engine Technology
- WBL3: Automotive Systems
- WBL: Medium/Heavy Truck Technology I
- WBL3: Medium/Heavy Truck Technology II
- WBL: Welding Fabrication I
- WBL3: Welding Fabrication II

Duncan – Medical Academy of Science and Health (MASH)

Linked Learning Pathways

- MASH
 - Nursing Services
 - Pharmacy Technician
 - Rehabilitation Therapy

CTE Courses

- Applied Medical Sciences
- WBL: Medical Careers
- WBL3: Nursing Services
- WBL: Pharmacy Technician Careers
- WBL3: Pharmacy Technician Services
- WBL: Rehabilitation Therapy Careers
- WBL3: Rehabilitation Therapy Services
- Digital Photography I
- Digital Photography II

- Video Production

Edison High School

Linked Learning Pathways

- Biomedicine – biomedical sciences, kinesiology and mental health
- Engineering Design and Development – electronics and robotics

California Partnership Academies

- Green Energy Academy – electronics and green energy

CTE Programs

- Computer Science
- Teacher Academy
- Technical Theater

CTE Courses

- Advanced Electronics
- AP Computer Science
- AP Computer Science Principles
- Application Design and Research
- Athletic Training
- Electronics Engineering
- Multimedia
- PLTW: Biomedical Innovation
- PLTW: Engineering Research and Development
- PLTW: Human Body Systems
- PLTW: Introduction to Engineering Design
- PLTW: Medical Interventions
- PLTW: Principles of Engineering
- Sports Medicine
- Teacher Academy: The Universal Career
- Technical Theater
- Technical Theater - Advanced
- UCCI: Green Up and Go
- Web Applications
- Web Programming

Fresno High School

International Baccalaureate Career-Related Programmes

- Army Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps – military science program
- Construction, Design and Architecture Technology – CAD, HVAC/R and construction
- Warrior Entertainment – video and

film production and live broadcasting

CTE Courses

- Construction Technology I
- IB: Computer Science (Higher Level) Year 1
- IB: Computer Science (Higher Level) Year 2
- IB: Film IB (Higher Level) Year 1
- IB: Film IB (Higher Level) Year 2
- Introduction to Engineering, Construction, and Design
- Multimedia
- Digital Video Production and Broadcasting (ROP)
- Technical Theater
- Video Production
- Videography
- WBL: Construction Technology - Exterior
- WBL: HVAC/R Technology Introduction

Hoover High School

Linked Learning Pathways

- Arts, Media and Entertainment – digital photography and videography
- Eco-Technology – agriculture sciences and natural resources
- Public Service – fire science and forensic science

CTE Programs

- Construction Technology
- Teacher Academy

CTE Courses

- Biological Links to Energy and the Environment
- CDE Agriculture Science I
- Cinematography
- Construction Technology I
- Construction Technology II
- Digital Photography I
- Digital Photography II
- Fire Science I
- Forensic Science
- History of Public Safety
- Multimedia
- Natural Resources I
- Natural Resources II
- Public Service Leadership
- Teacher Academy: The Universal Career
- UCCI: Green Up and Go

- Videography
- WBL: Construction Technology - Interior

McLane High School

Linked Learning Pathways

- Finance and Entrepreneurship – finance and banking (partnership with Union Bank)
- Medical Education and Research Academy – public health, patient care and medical assisting (NAF Distinguished Academy)

California Partnership Academies

- Academy of Finance and Entrepreneurship – small business management
- ArtVenture – art and video production
- Medical Education and Research Academy – public health, patient care, and medical assisting

CTE Programs

- Teacher Academy

CTE Courses

- Applied Medical Sciences
- Art Appreciation and Applied Arts
- Banking and Finance
- Banking and Financial Institution Internship
- Cinematography
- Digital Media and Design
- Digital Photography I
- Entrepreneurship and Marketing
- Health: Prevention, Fitness, and Nutrition
- Introduction to Education
- Medical Health Careers
- Personal Finances
- Small Business Management
- Teacher Academy: The Universal Career
- Video Production
- WBL: Clinical and Administrative Health Careers
- WBL: Virtual Enterprise

Patiño School of Entrepreneurship

Linked Learning Pathways

- Business, Entrepreneurship and Technology – project management,

online marketing, and web design

CTE Courses

- Advanced Online Marketing
- Advanced Web Development
- AP Computer Science Principles
- AP Research
- AP Seminar
- Business Startup Accelerator
- Business Startup Incubator
- Entrepreneurial Media
- Online Design and Marketing
- Project Management
- UCCI: Spanish 3 for the Entrepreneurial Mind

Roosevelt High School

Linked Learning Pathways

- Health Academy – patient care and sports medicine
- Public Service – criminal justice and leadership

California Partnership Academies

- Health Academy – patient care and sports medicine

CTE Programs

- Business and Marketing
- Culinary Arts
- Fashion Design
- Teacher Academy

CTE Courses

- AP Computer Science Principles
- Applied Medical Sciences
- Art Fashion And Design
- Athletic Training
- Careers in Education
- Costume Design and Makeup
- Criminal Justice
- Design and Marketing
- Exploring Fashion/Textiles/Apparel Arts
- Foods and Nutrition I
- Foods and Nutrition II
- Health: Prevention, Fitness, and Nutrition
- Introduction to Public Safety
- Medical Health Careers
- Public Service Leadership
- Sports Medicine
- Teacher Academy: The Universal Career

- Video Production
- Videography
- WBL: Allied Health Careers
- WBL: Marketing and Enterprise

Sunnyside High School

Linked Learning Pathways

- Agriscience and Technology – agriculture mechanics and engineering
- Health Sciences – sports medicine
- Multimedia and Marketing – digital photography and marketing

California Partnership Academies

- Video Production Academy – broadcasting and cinematography

CTE Programs

- Doctors Academy
- Teacher Academy

CTE Courses

- Advanced Digital Photography and Marketing

- Agricultural Engineering
- Agriculture Mechanics
- AP Computer Science
- AP Computer Science Principles
- Applied Medical Sciences
- Athletic Training
- CDE Agriculture Science I
- Cinematography
- Digital Photography and Marketing
- Digital Photography I
- Multimedia
- Digital Video Production and Broadcasting (ROP)
- Sports Medicine
- Teacher Academy: The Universal Career
- Video Production
- Videography

Alternative Education Sites

Cambridge High School

CTE Courses

- Integrated Marketing

- Communications
- Multimedia
- WBL: Small Business Management
- Work Experience Education

DeWolf High School

CTE Courses

- Construction Technology I
- Urban Innovations and Certifications I
- WBL: Construction Technology – Interior
- Work Experience Education

J.E. Young Academic Center

CTE Courses

- WBL: Social Media Marketing
- Work Experience Education

Phoenix Secondary Academy

CTE Courses

- CDE Agriculture Science I
- Work Experience Education

New Career Technical Education Building Opens at Fresno High

Students at Fresno High School will start taking their career technical education (CTE) classes in a new 18,000 square foot building in December, launching a new chapter of excellence for career pathway programs at the campus.

The district held a grand opening and ribbon cutting for the new building on Nov. 18, hosting industry partners, city leaders and district staff.

Tours of the building revealed state of the art equipment for students to learn electrical systems, video production and a variety of other skills.

The event included recognition of three CTE Champions who have passed away: Carol Mills, longtime board member in the Fresno High area; Dale Costa, beloved CTE teacher at DeWolf High School and then Hoover High School; and Mike Schwan, a business owner who led the district's CTE Advisory Committee.

All three would have loved Fresno

High's new building. It brings all CTE classes together in one state-of-the-art space. The building reimagines CTE at Fresno High from its former location in a decommissioned auto shop built in 1951.

The \$7.8 million project was funded by Measure X, the \$225 million bond passed by voters in 2016, and three state CTE Facilities Program grants. The building is located at the back of Fresno High, near the baseball diamond.

The building is the new home of Warrior Entertainment, a video production career pathway, featuring a recording studio, sound studio and stage. The new building also provides space for the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) program, construction shops and yards, and a presentation space and career center that can be utilized by the school and district and community partners.

The new building will help Fresno

High reach several objectives, including growing the [International Baccalaureate Career-related Programme](#), accommodating equipment set-ups to meet industry standards, growing student enrollment that leads to certifications and provides dual enrollment opportunities, and offering a variety of work-based learning experiences and mentoring for students by industry partners.

Speakers at the grand opening event were Superintendent Bob Nelson, Principal Linda Laettner, CTE coordinator Keisha Shabazz, Industrial Manufacturing and Technology Sub-Committee chairperson Sarah Pedelty and Mayor Jerry Dyer.

“It provides our businesses directly with high-quality employees and better yet, it gives our kids a reason to understand why they’re learning what they’re learning,” Nelson said.

Another significant CTE facility is under construction at Duncan

Polytechnical High School across town from Fresno High. The district broke ground in September on the new health programs building.

The new building, expected to open in the fall of 2022, will house Duncan's [Medical Academy of Science and Health \(MASH\) programs](#). The building will support students in the medical pathways of Nursing Services (certified nursing assistant), Rehabilitation Therapy and Pharmacy Technician.

Each of the pathways offers students the opportunity to go immediately into the work force and/or higher education after graduation. Students start the MASH academy in ninth grade and during their four years can earn industry recognized certifications in CPR, Blood Borne Pathogens, HIPAA and OSHA 10 for Healthcare leading up to their 12th grade pathway certification as a CNA, in rehabilitation therapy, or as a pharmacy technician.

"This new facility will support all the fantastic work already going on at Duncan to prepare students for careers in the health industry and provide much needed qualified applicants for our local health care providers," Nelson said.



Kyra Orgill, a teacher at Fresno High School, and Rick Schmelz, Fresno High HVAC instructor, tour the electrical systems learning panels for students in the Construction, Design and Architecture Pathway at Fresno High School. The panels are part of the new CTE building that will open for students in December.



From right, Fresno Unified assistant project manager Scott Loewen and project manager Richard Hopelian talk with outside contractors in front of the new Fresno High School CTE building in late October as it nears completion.

Ewing Hosts Special Olympics

Aaron Lopez, left, and Kevin Chang have fun at a Special Olympics event at Ewing Elementary School. Events included soccer, corn hole and other underhand throwing events. Students missed out on the event last year due to COVID-19 restrictions, so the Ewing community organized a smaller scale event for just the school this year.

[For video, go to vimeo.com/fresnounified/ewingspecialolympics](https://vimeo.com/fresnounified/ewingspecialolympics)



District Alerts Families and Staff to Mental Health Services

This continues to be a stressful time as COVID-19 affects the health of many in the community, how they work and relationships with others. The district recognizes the mental health burden this pandemic continues to inflict and has resources available.

For students and families, [visit the Fresno Unified website by clicking here](#) to learn more about resources. Students and family members will be able to [submit a referral for social emotional support](#), contact [Care Solace](#) to find programs and counseling

services and find other resources.

Other resources:

- [Central Valley Suicide Hotline: 1-888-506-5991](#)
- [Connect with a Crisis Counselor by Texting "HOME" to 741741](#)
- [Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-TALK \(1-800-273-8255\)](#)

Resources for Fresno Unified employees include the [Employee Assistant Program](#) (EAP), which provides confidential counseling

for employees and eligible family members. EAP provides five free sessions and a small copay for additional sessions. To get started, speak with an experienced counselor 24 hours a day, seven days a week: (800) 834-3773 [Summary of benefits](#)

Access to more long-term mental health and substance abuse services is available through [Halcyon Behavioral](#). The district's plan allows for up to 60 sessions per year.

[List of Providers](#)

Duncan Polytechnical High Student Aiming for Air Force Academy

Karen Vathanaphong chose the automotive pathway at Duncan Polytechnical so she could fix her own car. But the skills she is learning may help her achieve her dream of getting into the Air Force Academy.

Karen is taking full advantage of her opportunities at Duncan, including taking on leadership roles and immersing herself in a career pathway and the Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC).

When Karen, a junior, began attending Duncan, she chose the Automotive Technology Pathway.

"In life, I knew it would be really helpful for me to work on my own cars," she said.

After joining JROTC, she learned about the Air Force Academy and that sparked her interest in working on planes.

"Even though the engines are smaller, some things are the same," Karen said.

Karen is pursuing her pilot's license and has applied to take the Aviation Qualification Test for the flight academy through ROTC. She has applied for the Air Force Academy's summer seminar, another step toward

gaining entrance to the academy.

She has OSHA certifications in Automotive Safety and Safety and Pollution Prevention. Her goal is to pass all Entry-Level Automotive Service Excellence certifications to earn Master certification status by the end of her senior year.

Automotive teacher Pat Dutcher, one of the [SkillsUSA](#) club advisers, recommended Karen run for president of the club because of her passion for her career pathway and her leadership, organization and communication skills. As president this school year, she led Duncan's first Fall Fest and Car Show, which raised over \$800 for the SkillsUSA state competition.

In the upcoming SkillsUSA competition she will compete for a medal in Aviation Maintenance Technology, working on jet engines.

"I was originally going to choose auto service and maintenance but Mr. Dutcher knew I was interested in going into the Air Force Academy to work on plane engines, so he encouraged me to get a head start and start practicing and learning now," Karen said.

She is also a leader in JROTC,

servicing as the Unarmed Exhibition Commander. Their drill team, the Lightning Eagles, competed in Reedley in November.

Karen expressed gratitude to Pat Dutcher and AFJROTC Colonel Sam Vandiver for their support as she pursues her goals.



Karen Vathanaphong, a junior at Duncan Polytechnical High School, hopes to get into the Air Force Academy.

Kids Invent! And STEM5 Engage Students with Hands On Learning

Fresno Unified is thrilled to embark on its seventh year of partnering with Fresno State's Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship on creative and innovative science curriculum with one objective: Meet the innovative demands of today while honoring the diverse needs of students.

Fifth grade students engage in STEM 5, hands-on activities aligned to the new California Science Framework. These lessons support science instruction to prepare students for the CA Science Test (CAST).

Each activity in STEM 5 uses the 5E instructional model aligned to

one of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) domains of life, physical and earth and space sciences. Students engage in hands-on activities, heightening their understanding of science, engineering and entrepreneurship.

Sixth grade students engage in Kids Invent!, lessons aligned to one of the NGSS domains of life, physical and earth and space sciences. Kids Invent! emphasizes engineering, making claims and supporting these claims with reasoning and evidence. Hands-on activities have cross-curricular applications.

Once again, students and teachers will come together at the Save Mart Center in the spring for the much-anticipated Innovation Day, an opportunity for students to showcase their work and share their innovative ideas with others.

STEM 5 and Kids Invent! are part of the Fresno Unified Board of Education's continued investment in science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM) learning to provide teachers and students with new interactive tools and resources.

Career Learning Starts Early to Support Skills, Encourage Exploration

Kindergarten students learning engineering skills?

Fresno Unified begins exposing students to career technical education (CTE), even in the elementary grades. Programs include CTE Engineering in Kinder lessons, a joint effort from the district's CTE and Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Learning departments.

Students engage in hands-on engineering activities that enhance literacy development, incorporating reading, writing, listening, and speaking opportunities. The lessons use grade level vocabulary directly related to texts that students are reading in class. In addition to literacy, the lessons align to the newly adopted Next Generation Science Standards.

All embedded lessons follow a problem-based learning approach as students follow the engineering design process to brainstorm and solve the challenge problem. For example, during quarter four, students read a story called "Float the Boat" as part of

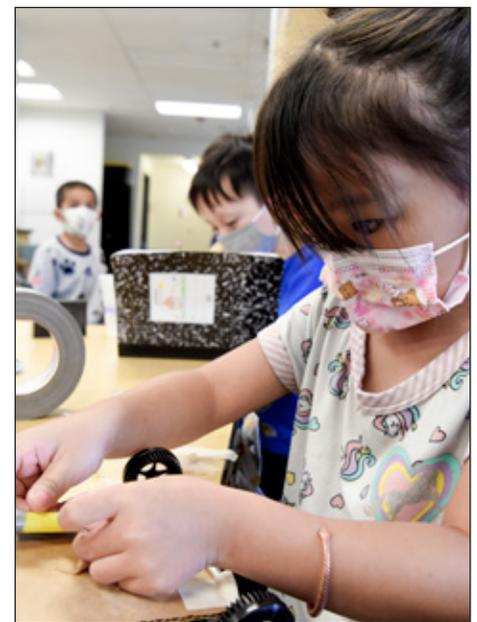
a modes of travel curricular theme.

The engineering challenge is for students to build a water vessel that can float in water, hold at least three aluminum washers and three paper clips and must have a wind catching apparatus to propel the vessel forward in water with simulated wind. Students work in collaborative engineering groups to create a plan, build a prototype vessel, test their build and modify as needed based on their test. Students complete their challenge by presenting their build to their classmates.

The Fresno Unified Board of Education and superintendent have continued with their intentional, ongoing funding investment to support the district's goals to expand student-centered and real-world learning experiences and increase student engagement in their school and community.

These lessons also foster skills and competencies that include creativity, collaboration, communication, problem solving and decision-making,

which align to the district's Graduate Profile. The engineering lessons focus on developing students' skills that are essential to the district's motto of "Achieving Our Greatest Potential!"



Samara Yang from Norseman Elementary School works on a project during Young Engineers Camp at McLane High School over the summer.

District Distributes Books for Reading at Home

Superintendent Bob Nelson reads to students at Ewing Elementary School on Nov. 19 as part of an event to highlight the “Promote Reading at Home” initiative. More than 50,000 students in pre-school through eighth grade will receive books from Scholastic that help foster social emotional development. The book packs come with a student literacy skills journal and a “Family Guide to Literacy” to help parents support reading at home. The books will be available in English and Spanish. The book distribution is part of the district’s commitment to help create home libraries, with the board of education approving \$1.4 million toward the initiative.



District Students can Earn College Credit While in High School

The College and Career Readiness Department has a Partnership Agreement for Dual Enrollment with the State Center Community College District (SCCCD).

This partnership allows eligible ninth through 12th grade students to take a college-level course, receive college credit through SCCC, and earn high school credit for the same course. Dual enrollment opportunities enrich the educational experience for high school students.

Some potential advantages of dual enrollment for students include:

- Earning a college degree in less time
- Eliminating duplication of coursework between high school and college
- Saving money -- dual enrollment courses are offered to students at no cost
- Exploring courses offered in a career field of their choice before starting a post-secondary program
- Experiencing the rigor of college

coursework and learning about college processes and practices

Some of the available career technical education (CTE) dual enrollment courses include Athletic Training, Basic Residential Construction, Direct Current Fundamentals of Electronics,

CNC Operation and Maintenance for Machinists, HVAC Introduction, Medical Terminology, Lab Safety Practices, Legal and Ethical Concepts, Occupational Safety and Health, and College and Life Management.



Duncan Polytechnical High School senior George Vang applies his learning from his Electrical Fundamentals Lab Safety Practices dual enrollment course to work on the shooting mechanism of a robot.

Students Learn Skills Outside the Classroom through Internships

“An expert in anything was once a beginner.” – Unknown

Internships integrate classroom knowledge and theory with practical application in professional or community settings.

Students develop and apply technical and professional skills into the workforce while exploring different career paths and specializations that best suit their interests. Consequently, students better understand what skills and competencies are necessary for a variety of careers and have the resources to make informed decisions for post-secondary training and education. Additionally, employers are able to guide and evaluate talent for future employment opportunities.

During the 2020-21 school year, 433 Fresno Unified students took part in 449 different internships across the Fresno area with partners in a variety of industry sectors. Total Concepts, Fowler Packing, CMAC, Fresno EOC, and Union Bank were just some of the many industry partners that worked with student interns.

During the summer, 434 students participated in an internship and 124 of those students had more than one internship. Some of the industry partners that welcomed interns were National Alliance for Mental Illness-Fresno, Anthem Blue Cross, Fresno Building Healthy Communities and Junior Achievement.

Fresno Unified also partnered with Career Nexus to offer paid internships for students in the manufacturing industry. Savannah Ruiz, a welding student from Duncan Polytechnical High School, used her skills and impressed United Western general manager Bruce Ketch so much that he moved her from the warehouse to the welding floor to work alongside his staff. Her experience was featured by [GV Wire](#).

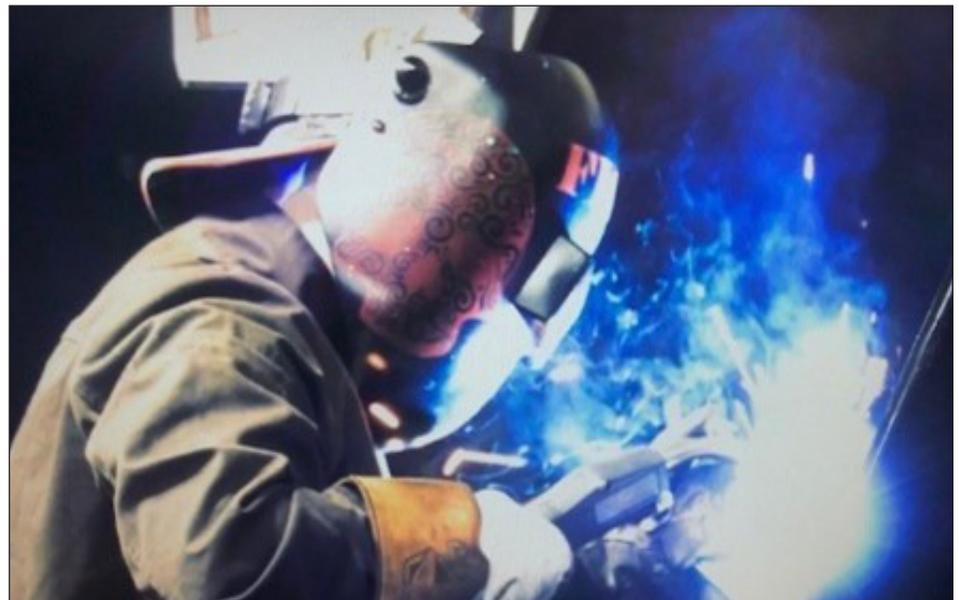
Expanding internship opportunities is a focal point of Fresno Unified’s Career Technical Education Department. The goal is to ensure every high school

senior has an opportunity to participate in an internship experience. Internships help students gain the experience and confidence they need to enter the workforce upon graduation and contribute to the workforce of our community.

Those interested in getting more information about hosting an intern or participating in an internship can scan



the QR code below and a member of the Career Readiness Teams will be in contact.



Duncan Polytechnical High School senior George Vang applies his learning from his Electrical Fundamentals Lab Safety Practices dual enrollment course to work on the shooting mechanism of a robot.

Students Participate in Future Ready Scholars at UC Berkeley

Students from Duncan Polytechnical, Edison, McLane and Sunnyside high schools participated in the Future Ready Scholars program at UC Berkeley over the summer, an intense three weeks focused on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) enrichment.

The [Future Ready Scholars program](#) is offered by [NAF](#) to students enrolled in

a NAF Academy at their high school.

The Fresno Unified students who participated were from their schools’ business/finance, health science and information technology career technology education pathways. The UC Berkeley summer experience is part of the larger, three-year Future Ready Scholars program focused on STEM college and career readiness.

Programming continues during the school year through monthly sessions throughout their high school years. The program is free to students and is funded by [NAF and its corporate partners](#).

Current senior participants completed their final summer online with access to multiple courses to prepare them for college and provide continued learning

in topics of interest. The students also have access to office hours throughout their final high school year to assist in college applications. A director, dedicated web site and access to multiple career and college resources are part of the program as well.



NAF Future Ready Scholars participated in a three-week career-focused camp at UC Berkeley.

Students Learn about Careers in Aviation, Try Out Flight Simulators

The district's Career Technical Education (CTE) Department hosted an Aviation Camp at the historic Fresno Chandler Airport in June.

The five-day program exposed students to careers in the aviation industry. The program was one of many internship opportunities available to Fresno Unified students during the past summer.

The camp was offered to students in homeless situations and foster care, special education students, African American students, and students designated as English learners. The teacher was Kris Reyes, a Public Service Pathway teacher at Roosevelt High School. The district partnered with New Vision Aviation and Reedley Community College's aviation program, which gave students the opportunity to learn from certified flight instructors and college professors.

During the camp, students toured Chandler Airport, built and launched model rockets, learned some flight and pilot basics, explored careers in the aviation industry, and participated in

flight simulator trainings. Students also traveled to Kearney Park to test out and launch their builds, took a day long trip to Atwater to visit the Castle Air Museum and toured the Army Guard MX facility at the Fresno Air Terminal.

On the final morning of the program, students had the option to go up in a Cessna airplane for a 15-minute ride, and in the afternoon they traveled to Reedley Community College to learn more about available local college

options in aviation.

Students who participated shared that the week was an amazing experience that opened their eyes to local available options in the aviation industry.

A. Vasquez, a ninth-grade student, summed up the week by saying, "I really think it was a good experience for me to go on the plane. I'm planning on taking classes for it. I want to become a pilot one day."



Over the summer students had the opportunity to go to Aviation Camp at Chandler Airport to learn about careers in aviation.

Roosevelt High School Hosts Breakfast with Blue

Officer David Standley from the Fresno Police Department talks with students about a career in law enforcement during Breakfast with Blue on Nov.

18. Roosevelt High School hosts the annual event for students in the [Public Service Pathway](#) to connect with industry partners during round table

discussions and learn from vehicle and technology demonstrations by public service agencies. Along with the Fresno Police Department, the event featured

representatives from the Fresno County Sheriff's Department, Fresno Fire Department, American Ambulance, Department of Corrections and the military. Mayor Jerry Dyer, the former police chief, addressed the group as well.



McLane's Medical Education and Research Academy Honored

[McLane's Medical Education and Research Academy \(MERA\)](#) is recognized as a [National Academy Foundation's \(NAF\) Distinguished Academy](#) for the 2020-21 school year.

NAF's annual Academy Assessment measures an academy's strengths and challenges in implementing a California career technology education pathway and NAF educational designs that prepare students for careers and college.

The highest scores on the assessment are Model academies. A subset of those academies – which achieve additional thresholds in industry led advisory boards, internship opportunities and CTE course completers – are recognized as Distinguished.

“Being part of the MERA program allows me to build relationships with teachers that I can go to for advice and mentoring. It also makes me feel

connected to other students in the program that have the same interests as me,” said Lyla Khounvixay, a senior.

“As a MERA student, you are seen as independent, responsible, and respectful. This program helped me

get into internships I never would've imagined and got to experience volunteer work specifically for MERA students. I feel one step ahead towards my career and future because of MERA.”



Crystal Rodriguez, left, and Lucero Hernandez practice athletic training skills as part of the McLane Medical Education and Research Academy at McLane High School.

CTE Student Ambassadors Promote Programs on their Campuses

The district is excited to have formal Career Technical Education (CTE) Ambassadors at all seven comprehensive high schools, as well as Patiño School of Entrepreneurship, Duncan Polytechnical High School and the Center for Advanced Research and Technology.

CTE Ambassadors are selected through a nomination process at each high school that has a CTE program. Ambassadors serve in a variety of capacities to represent their school's CTE pathways, including with publicity, student recruitment and industry partner communication to

highlight the benefits and opportunities that are made available through CTE.

They also serve as representatives within their schools and pathways to provide student voice and valuable insights as to how to improve programs and increase student interest and participation.

CTE Ambassadors' activities include:

- Leading campus and pathway tours
- Attending district CTE related events
- Planning and facilitating activities
- Meeting and interacting with industry partners
- Recruiting and marketing pathway programs to middle school students
- Providing recommendations for improving CTE pathways and courses

Students who are interested in becoming a CTE Ambassador can speak with their CTE teachers or their CTE coordinator at their campus.



CTE Ambassadors from Duncan Polytechnical High School present information about the Innovative Design and Applied Technology Academy pathways to eighth grade students at Ahwahnee Middle School.

Sunnyside and Baird Students Excel with Winning Fair Projects

Sunnyside High School's [Agriscience and Technology Pathway](#) students and Baird Middle School agricultural students entered projects in The Big Fresno Fair for the first time, taking home nearly 50 prizes.

Sunnyside agriscience teacher Bravo Pena's students submitted 50 plant projects, with 40 placing first in their divisions. Students received \$26 to \$28 prizes for winning entries.

"We look forward to adding more projects and continuing this amazing experience for our Wildcat students," Pena said.

Students from Philip Siechert's ag mechanics students entered four dog houses and took home first or second place prizes for all their entries. Three of the dog houses were constructed by groups of students from both summer construction/geometry and ag mechanics.

"Entering them in the fair allowed

students to showcase their skills and gave them pride to display them in a public setting. The structures featured all phases of conventional stick framing, OSB siding, and asphalt shingle roofing," Siechert said.

Baird students took home awards for

succulents in various divisions as well.

Students from both campuses visited the fair to deliver their submissions and view all entries.

Sunnyside video production students created a video of the experience, including student interviews.



Aaron Mora, left, and Daniel Cruz from Sunnyside High School were among groups of students entering award-winning dog houses in The Big Fresno Fair.

District Establishes Private Internet Connection Service for Students

The district has established a private LTE network, Connect2Learn, to provide better internet connection for

students while they are at home.

The new network is part of the

district's work to combat issues of digital connectivity that were made more apparent during distance learning

through the pandemic.

Fresno Unified is deploying a private LTE service to students across southwest and southeast Fresno, where access and quality of connectivity is lacking. Towers have been installed on 15 schools.

The towers will support up to 10,000 users in the neighborhoods around 24 schools. Only students with district-issued hotspots will be able to access the internet connection.

The district publicly launched Connect2Learn at an event Nov. 5 at Gaston Middle School, one of the schools where equipment has been installed. Fresno Unified is using equipment from Nokia, a top-tier manufacturer of cellular radios. NetSync, a firm committed to the education market, is doing the implementation. Nokia and Netsync are providing radio frequency expertise.

The rollout of the district's private LTE network began on Oct. 18. School communities benefiting from the private LTE network are Addams, Anthony, Ayer, Bakman, Calwa, Columbia, Greenberg, Hidalgo, Jackson, Jefferson, Lowell, Rowell,

Vang Pao, Winchell and Yokomi elementary schools; Computech, Gaston, Sequoia, Tehipite, Terronez and Yosemite middle schools; and Edison, Roosevelt High and Sunnyside high schools.

Superintendent Bob Nelson said at the Nov. 5 event: "It's days like this that I can so palpably feel the huge impact Fresno Unified has on our community."

He said that the district's Information Technology Department began working on the idea of establishing

a private network for Fresno Unified students nearly three years ago, something that very few districts are doing.

"But our teams thought, 'We can do that.' Not only, 'We can do that, but we should do that.' Then the pandemic hit, and while our teams have had so many demands, our IT team put this plan into overdrive," Nelson said.

[For video, go to vimeo.com/fresnounified/connect2learn](https://vimeo.com/fresnounified/connect2learn)



Jireh Lacy, an eighth grader at Tehipite Middle School, shows off two internet hotspot devices that are part of a program to improve connections for students.

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Building Futures is a monthly publication of Fresno Unified School District prepared by the Communications Office. To place an ad, contact (559) 457-3733 or email Communications@FresnoUnified.org.

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