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Introduction

What Career Technical Education Means for Students
Career Technical Education (CTE) curriculum, instruction, and work-based learning opportunities prepare students to become creative and adaptable learners, productive problem solvers, and innovative community leaders. By collaborating with industry colleagues and aligning with our local colleges, our CTE teachers and staff create classroom environments that connect and fuel opportunity, contribute to our local workforce development efforts, and replicate relevant learning experiences where students succeed and actualize their potential.

Fresno Unified is committed to expanding relevant opportunities to its students through CTE experiences that build confidence, self-assurance, and the skills and abilities to launch into their career path.
About the Team

What it Means to Work in CTE

Throughout Fresno Unified School District, more than 900 business and industry partners are joining with our schools and our talented CTE teachers by investing their time and offering unique experiences to the more than 11,000 Fresno Unified students that are enrolled in career pathway programs. Collectively, the district and its partners are building a pipeline of skilled talent and our leaders of tomorrow. Together, we are creating a wide array of options and opportunities for students and staff to achieve at their highest potential.

CTE has:

- 19 Team Members
- 10 Site-Based Coordinators
- 11 Job Developers
Facilities

Duncan Polytechnical High
Duncan broke ground on September 17, 2021, for a new building to house its Medical Academy of Science and Health (MASH) programs.

The building will support students in the medical pathways and is designed to give students more realistic clinical experiences. The medical building is expected to be completed by the fall of 2022.

Students start the MASH academy in ninth grade and during their four years can earn industry-recognized certifications in CPR, Bloodborne Pathogens, HIPAA, and OSHA 10, leading up to their 12th grade pathway certification either as a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), a rehab therapy aide, or 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.” Bob Nelson, Superintendent

Fresno High
Opened in December 2021, Fresno High’s new CTE facility has state of the art equipment for students to learn electrical systems, video production, fundamentals of construction, and other certifications and skills needed to be college, career, and future ready.

The building re-imagines CTE at Fresno High from its former location in a decommissioned auto shop built in 1951. 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 school, district, and community partners.

“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.” Bob Nelson, Superintendent
Internships

Students Gain Job Experience

Internships integrate classroom knowledge and theory with practical application in professional or community settings. Students develop and apply technical and professional skills while exploring different career paths. Additionally, employers are able to guide and evaluate talent for future employment opportunities.

Expanding both paid and unpaid internship opportunities is a focal point of the CTE department. The goal is to ensure every high school senior has an opportunity to participate in an internship experience.

In 2021, Savana Ruiz, a student at Duncan Polytechnical High School, secured an internship with United Western Industries for welding work. Through her internship, she had the opportunity to become a certified welder and hopes to turn it into a career after graduation.

1,301 students participated in an internship in 2021-22.

“I’ve had such a passion for welding. I love it. I adore it. It’s such an empowering feeling when you’re able to say I made this, look at this weld. I made this; it’s mine.” Savanah Ruiz, Duncan Polytechnical High School

Summer Internships

Students Spend Summer Learning on the Job

The Career Technical Education department provided multiple summer internship opportunities for high school students.

Through a mix of in-person hands-on internships and virtual micro-internships taking place throughout the summer through Work Ed, CTE was able to provide 434 students with real-world work experience during the summer of 2021.

- Teacher Academy: Students engaged in professional learning about the teaching practice, worked with students in summer school classrooms, and gained classroom experience.

- Anthem/NAMI: Students learned from partners like Chris Roup at the National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) and Michelle Babelle from Anthem, earning HIPAA and mental health certifications.

- Junior Achievement and Growth Point: At Growth Point, students created promotional videos for the company.

- NAF Berkeley Future-Ready Scholars: Students spent 3 weeks taking science, technology, engineering, and math classes, while also learning leadership and community collaboration skills.

- Doctors Academy: Students earned OSHA-10, Food Handlers, Stop-the-Bleed, and CPR certifications. The two-week program culminated with a career fair symposium where students presented their career exploration research projects.

The CTE department plans to expand both summer and school year internship opportunities in the coming year to offer the greatest number of experiences possible to students interested in hands-on learning.
Summer Aviation
CTE Students Take to the Skies

The first aviation summer camp, held at Chandler Airport, opened student experiences to a new world of career choices. 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.

The camp was offered to students in homeless situations and foster care, special education students, African American students, and students designated as English learners.

During the camp, seventeen 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.

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.

“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.” Angelina Vasquez, Hoover High School
Dual Enrollment
Students Get a Head Start on College

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 twelfth grade students to take a college-level course, receive college credit through SCCCD, and earn high school credit for the same course.


In the 2021-2022 school year:

- 443 students earned credit
- 1,370 credits earned
- 34 courses offered
Elementary Programs
Starting CTE Experiences Early

Engineering in Kinder
Fresno Unified begins exposing students to CTE in elementary grades.

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.

All embedded lessons follow a problem-based learning approach as students follow the engineering design process to brainstorm and solve the challenge problem. Students work in collaborative engineering groups to create a plan, build a prototype, test their build, and modify as needed based on their test. Students complete their challenge by presenting their build to their classmates.

Young Engineers Summer Camp
A hands-on learning opportunity for grades K-2.

Offered in partnership with Fresno State’s Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Young Engineers encourages creativity and problem-solving specific to engineering challenges, including building a suspension bridge, apple crate, and an earthquake resistant skyscraper.

Students follow the design process by starting with a challenge, brainstorming possible solutions with their peers, and creating prototypes to share with their classmates.

The curriculum was built on two books: “What Do You Do With a Problem?” and “What Do You Do With an Idea?” by Kobi Yamada. The books encourage literacy while fostering a growth mindset and adaptability within students. Each student took home both books.

STEM 5 and Kids Invent!
Innovation Day at the Save Mart Center.

Offered in partnership with Fresno State’s Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, these programs focus 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 that heighten their understanding of science, engineering, and entrepreneurship.

Sixth grade students engage in Kids Invent!, which emphasizes engineering, making claims, and supporting those claims with reasoning and evidence.

Students and teachers 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.
NAF Distinguished Academies

NAF’s annual Academy Assessment measures an academy’s strengths and challenges in implementing NAF’s results-driven educational design that prepares students to be college, career, and future ready. The highest scores on the assessment are NAF Model academies. A subset of those academies—which achieve additional thresholds—are recognized as Katherine Blasik Distinguished.

About MERA and MASH

Going Above and Beyond

Two of the District’s high schools were recognized as Distinguished Academies for their outstanding medical career pathways by the National Academy Foundation (NAF).

Duncan Polytechnical High School’s Medical Academy of Science and Health (MASH) and McLane High School’s Medical Education and Research Academy (MERA) went above and beyond the guidelines and principles of quality to implement and sustain improved outcomes in order to earn recognition as a Katherine Blasik Distinguished Academy.

MASH received recognition for the first time in 2022, while this year was the second year for MERA.

- High-Quality Curriculum: Students have the opportunity to earn certifications in the medical field while taking courses that prepare for college.
- Work-Based Learning: Students interact with healthcare and medical professionals for hands-on learning.
- Internship Opportunities: Students have multiple opportunities for internships to gain real-world experience.
- Student Supports: The pathway has a multi-tiered system of supports to ensure students are successful.

In addition, McLane’s Academy of Finance and Entrepreneurship achieved Model Academy status for 2022.
CTE Gives Back
Duncan Students Help to Rebuild After Creek Fire

Duncan Polytechnical High School construction students made life a little better for some of the Shaver Lake property owners who lost their homes in the 2020 Creek Fire.

Juniors and seniors in Ash Jones’ classes built sheds and pump houses for survivors of the fire. The structures make it possible for the property owners to safely store their tools and materials as they rebuild their homes.

The first shed was delivered on December 11, 2021, with the students traveling to Shaver Lake to help assemble the pieces on the property. Duncan had enough donated materials to complete two sheds, thanks to the Logs to Lumber program.

The students’ involvement was initiated by a call from Steven Bell of the Mennonite Disaster Relief Service in late 2020 to Cara Jurado, CTE coordinator for Duncan’s IDATA program. Partners in the project also included Rebuild Our Sierra, the Creek Fire Recovery Collaboration, and Catholic Charities. Southern California Edison donated the lumber, made from logs salvaged from the burn area.

The shed project directly supported the CTE standards for framing, footings and foundations, roofing, blueprints, site-layout, and wood finishing trades. The project also helped students learn and reinforced the Student Learner Outcomes/Graduate Profile skills, such as collaboration, communication, and problem-solving.

“Equally important, the students are learning how to use their talents to give back to the community. The students all shared that ‘Even though it’s hard work, it is worth it’.” Ash Jones, Duncan Polytechnical Construction Teacher
CTE Data

By the Numbers: CTE Data for the 2021-2022 School Year

- 11,059 students enrolled in CTE courses. Nearly 40% of all grade 7-12 in-person students are enrolled in one of 79 CTE pathway options.

- 5,932 students participating in a Linked Learning pathway. Each comprehensive high school has one or more Linked Learning pathways.

- 624 students participating in an IB Career-Related Programme. Fresno High has 3 IB Career-Related Programme pathways.

- 92,326 total Work-Based Learning experiences for K-12. Students participate in multiple Work-Based Learning experiences every year.

- 13,046 industry certifications earned. Qualifying courses and instructors offer certifications recognized by industry.

- 121 CTE-credentialed teachers. CTE recruits teachers from industry who have years of experience in their fields.

- 20-21 graduation rate: 98.7%. Students who complete a CTE pathway graduate at a higher rate than the District average.
Program Highlights

Edison High GRID Alternatives
Green Energy Academy students learn solar skills.
Students learned how to construct and install solar panels and about electrical circuits and basic job safety through a partnership with local solar company GRID Alternatives. Students mastered skills that will help them immediately join the booming solar industry and prepare them for postsecondary study of renewable energy and energy-related fields.

Fresno High Construction Competition
Female students take part in Women in Construction competition.
The Girl Build was part of Fresno Unified’s efforts to encourage more female students to pursue careers in construction-related fields and gave students a chance to showcase their skills. Duncan Polytechnical High School’s team won in the Risk-Taker and Creativity categories; Fresno High’s Team Mariah won for Craftsmanship; and Fresno High’s Team Destiny won for Safety and Teamwork.

McLane High Student Films – Swedefest 2021
Student films selected for international film festival.
Two films created by students from the ArtVenture Production Academy at McLane were selected for Swedefest 2021, an international film festival hosted by CMAC. The films premiered in front of a live audience at the CMAC outdoor theater in downtown Fresno and streamed worldwide. Students involved were Justin Vang, Alisson Yang, Aliyah Barajas, Evelyn Ramirez, Keyjuan Jones, Siahong Lor, and Fabiola Martinez.

Patiño School of Entrepreneurship
Future Business Leaders of America Leadership Development Institute
Linked Learning students took a field trip to California Tiny House. Students examined how renewable energy technologies can replace or refine current energy sources that transfer carbon into the atmosphere, and how understanding human impact on the environment can influence how to design more responsible living spaces.

Sunnyside High Poverello Dog Condo
Students design and build dog condos for pets at the Poverello House shelter.
Poverello House had requested the large doghouse to shelter residents’ much beloved pets. “One act of kindness can be the positive shift in the lives of men and women experiencing homelessness and extreme poverty,” said Abigail Nolte, community relations officer for the Poverello House. The students are part of the Agriscience Technology Pathway at Sunnyside.
Duncan Polytechnical High SkillsUSA State Competition
Students win gold and bronze at state competition, advance to Nationals.
Duncan Construction senior James Rodriguez will be competing at the SkillsUSA National Competition in Atlanta, Georgia, after winning gold at the State Competition in Residential Plumbing. James is the first construction student to win gold for Duncan at this event. Senior Yao Lor also made it to the winners’ podium after winning the bronze medal for electrical wiring.

Roosevelt High FBI Youth Leadership
Public Service pathway students spend the day with FBI personnel.
Presentation topics for students included cybercrimes, the special agent physical fitness test, transnational organized crime, human trafficking, cyber safety, and civil rights. The FBI’s special agent bomb technician and members of the SWAT and Evidence Response Team also shared their experiences with students. The final session provided information about careers in the FBI. The program concluded with a graduation ceremony.

Hoover High CTE Presentations
Ambassadors visit middle schools to promote pathways.
CTE Ambassadors visited Ahwahnee and Tioga Middle Schools to present information about various pathways at Hoover to incoming 7th and 8th grade students. Presentation topics included Arts, Media, and Entertainment; Building and Construction Trades; Eco-Technology; Public Services; and Teacher Academy.

First Responder Camp CTE Summer Event
CTE and Fresno Police Department hold inaugural First Responder Camp in July.
This 4-day camp allowed for students to experience various aspects of the Fresno PD, Fresno Fire Dept, and American Ambulance. The camp included the FPD’s helicopter team, K-9-unit, Mounted Unit, and Emergency Vehicle Operation Course, and a scenario including the Fresno Fire Department and American Ambulance. All students were given a Challenge Coin by Chief Balderrama, Chief Donnis, and Mayor Dyer to commemorate the event.

Baird Middle Students Learning Ag
Students explore stages of crop growth and taste their own work.
Students at Baird learned how to compost with leftover winter crops, cooked and tasted broccoli they grew in the garden, and learned how to construct a greenhouse. They also showcased and sold their produce at the District’s IdeaFest event in April.
Duncan Polytechnical High HOSA Competition

Students sweep top four places in Nursing Assisting competition.

Four Duncan students in HOSA, an international organization for students interested in health careers, swept the top four places in Nursing Assisting at the state competition in Long Beach March 23-25. They continued on to the national competition in Nashville June 22-25. Students from Duncan’s Medical Academy of Science and Health are Jesse Rojas, Leslie Lopez, Isabella Jimenez, and Leslie Romero.

Sunnyside High Agriscience at the Fair

Sunnyside students take home top prizes.

The Sunnyside Ag Mechanics class and the summer construction/geometry course submitted four doghouses for the Fresno Fair as their class project. Two earned first prize and two earned second prize. Additionally, fifty plant projects from students in the Agriscience pathway were entered and forty placed first in their division.

Phoenix Secondary Sustainable Agriculture

New agriculture program launched this year.

In the new Sustainable Agriculture CTE course at Phoenix Secondary Academy, students focus on the growth and preservation of our environment and natural resources. Students have grown their own edible garden on campus, learned to clone plants, and even incubated chicken eggs!

Fresno High Little Library Installation

Students design, build, and install a Little Free Library.

Students built and installed a Little Free Library for Roeding Elementary students. The project is in partnership with the Fresno Unified Curriculum and Instruction Department, Reading Heart, and Every Neighborhood Partnership. The goal is to install a Little Free Library at all District elementary schools.

Hoover High Students Visit the Ivy Leagues

Two Teacher Academy students toured multiple college campuses.

During Spring Break, two students in Hoover’s Teacher Academy program, Jorge and Stephanie, were invited on a trip to experience six Ivy League and two UC campuses, including Stanford, Brown, Yale, and Princeton. Their teacher, Hector Lopez, accompanied them and was “beyond thrilled that two...Hoover students were able to put themselves in a position to expand their horizons.”

Sunnyside High Little Library Installation

Students design, build, and install a Little Free Library.

Aynesworth students alongside Sunnyside Ag Mechanics students built and installed a Little Library. Students can take from and contribute books to the stand, encouraging reading. 11th grade Sunnyside student Alexandra Plata, an Aynesworth alumni, designed the clock tower on top of the book stand.
McLane High VA Internship Experience
MERA students complete internship experience with the VA.
McLane’s Medical Education and Research Academy (MERA) proudly celebrated the successful completion of the Class of 2022’s Internship Experience at the Fresno Veteran’s Affairs (VA) medical center. These high school seniors were honored to serve the Central Valley’s veterans, collectively volunteering nearly 1,800 hours.

Innovation Day Engineering Competition
5th and 6th grade students compete at the Save Mart Center.
Innovation Day is the highly anticipated annual event that brings 5th and 6th grade students from schools across Fresno Unified for an exciting, hands-on science and engineering based competition at the Save Mart Center. Along with the fun of competition, students also get to showcase their skills working together to solve a challenge in front of an audience of family and friends.

CART Biomedicine Lab College Visit
Biomedicine students take field trip to California Health Science University.
The CHSU medical school staff ran the students through three different stations where they learned how to place an IV on a simulated patient arm, deliver a nebulizer breathing treatment to a child simulator patient, and perform CPR. During this trip students were also able to tour the CHSU simulation center and learn more about attending CHSU for medical school in the future.

Roosevelt High G.E.A.R.
Roosevelt holds kick-off event for Health Pathway.
As part of their orientation day, the Health Pathway students at Roosevelt High School had an opportunity to sign up for mentors and learn about the new G.E.A.R program – Grades, Engagement, Attendance, and Reward. This program will allow students to get points based on the 3 categories and be rewarded each quarter.

Edison High Health Fair
Students present at Biomedical Health Expo.
In March, Edison was able to bring back the annual Biomedical Health Expo. 9th grade Biomedical Technology students presented their health projects to the community, including parents, students, staff, and industry partners. Industry partners were also able to participate in the Health Expo by having informational and interactive booths.
Bullard High US Marshal Office Tour

Bullard Law and Social Justice students tour US Marshal’s Office. Students participated in a job shadowing event with the Hammerschmidt Law Firm. They heard from law partners and paralegals about their work, backgrounds, and roles, took a short trip across the street to the US Federal Courthouse, got a behind the scenes tour of the US Marshal’s Office, and got to see how the Marshals transport suspects into and through the courthouse, seeing holding cells, inmate elevators, and processing facilities.

Duncan Polytechnical Duncan Dynamics Robotics

Robotics team finalist at regional competitions. Duncan Dynamics Robotics earned Finalist Awards at the two regional competitions and a wild card invitation to the FIRST FRC Championships in Houston, Texas. Their performance during the championships led them to be chosen as the first robot pick by Alliance 8 in the Galileo Division, where they were defeated in the quarter finals by the eventual world champion Alliance 1.

Sports Science Institute Fresno State Kinesiology

Students participate in sports medicine summer program. The Sports Science Institute was a week-long program that gave students hands-on experiences with the Kinesiology Dept. Students spent a day learning Athletic Training, Exercise Science, and Sports Psychology. They learned how to tape ankles, measure and test their muscle performance, the importance of mental strength when it comes to sports performance, and how to engage in competitive and healthy physical fitness.

Fresno High Directing Change

Student finishes in first place in regional competition. A team of film students from Fresno High School tied for first in their region in the Directing Change Program and Film Contest out of more than 700 film submissions, which addresses critical topics and pursues social justice through film. Students Mandy Yang, Kimberly Ruiz, and Nevaeh Hill created a 1min PSA addressing suicide prevention and mental health awareness. Watch their film at https://vimeo.com/683474827

IdeaFest Student Showcase

Students answer: How do we sustain the family farm? IdeaFest was the culminating public event to showcase district-wide student projects on the Family Farm theme which they had been working on throughout the year. The essential question guiding student inquiry was: How do we sustain the family farm? IdeaFest featured a professional booth for each class’s project, with more than 100 booths representing great student ideas from TK through 12th grade.
Duncan Polytechnical Pride 2022
Students construct decoration for District Pride Parade float.
Three juniors in the Construction Technology pathway at Duncan worked together to design, cut, and paint a pair of rainbow Ray-Ban glasses in honor of the late Jefferey Robinson. He was known for his glasses and they were displayed on the district’s float along with the slogan “seeing our pride with Fresno Unified” in this year’s Pride Parade.

Roosevelt High Fashion Show
Fashion Design program students present fashion show.
In May, after a 2 year hiatus, fashion design students were able to showcase their designs at their “Pure Imagination: A Journey through Fashion and Art” fashion show. The fashion show featured student-made garments and set pieces, student models, performances by Studio D Dancers and Theatre Movement, and artwork by Roosevelt photography students.

Bullard High CRMC Nurse Certifications
Biomedicine students assist with nurse certifications at Community Regional.
Students from Bullard Biomedicine acted as practice patients for nurses at CRMC who were renewing or pursuing their trauma certifications. With scripts by the proctors and moulage wounds done by staff, students acted as the victims of various emergencies to make sure nurses were well prepared. They got to talk with the proctors about the proper way to do the procedures as well as more information about careers in patient care.

DeWolf High OldCastle Welding Internship
Seven students complete 2-week internship with OldCastle Infrastructure.
Students worked with OldCastle employees gaining skills in production welding. In two weeks, they improved from little to no knowledge of welding to building small parts for the company’s inventory. At the conclusion of the internship students were able to pass the company’s weld test for potential new employees. This opportunity for students would not have been possible without DeWolf’s relationship with OldCastle Plant Manager David Pino.
CTE Ambassadors
Students Promote Programs on Their Campuses

Formal Career Technical Education Ambassadors have been chosen at all seven comprehensive high schools, as well as Patiño School of Entrepreneurship and the Center for Advanced Research and Technology (CART).

CTE Ambassadors are selected through a nomination process at each high school. Ambassadors serve in a variety of capacities to represent their school’s CTE pathways, including helping 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

Ambassador Spotlight
Aliyah is part of the ArtVenture Academy at McLane High School, one of dozens of career pathways offered at high schools throughout the district. She is also a CTE Ambassador, part of a new program for students in career technical education programs.

Aliyah said she is proud to represent ArtVenture Academy. Although she said she tends to be nervous speaking in front of others, “I do feel gratification being able to educate, or even brag, about the ArtVenture production academy.”

She said that career pathways like ArtVenture Academy can help students get into college and provide exploration of possible careers.

Aliyah’s goal is to be a journalist, perhaps for the New York Times. For years her dream school has been New York University. Her work this year on videography and photography and as a CTE Ambassador will be great additions to her college applications.

“I think everyone should attempt to be in a pathway they enjoy, even if it isn’t the exact career path they had planned.” Aliyah Barajas, McLane High School CTE Ambassador
Tournament of Technology

Middle School Students Compete

Approximately 300 Fresno Unified middle school students squared off in technology-based competitions as part of the 15th annual Middle School Tournament of Technology, the largest contest of its kind in the state. It had been almost three years since the last in-person event was held.

Students competed in events in the categories of Robotics, Video Productions, Design, and Coding. This year, for the first time, the Tournament of Technology featured a Drone Exhibition, and Fresno PD flew their Maverick Drone used in law enforcement.

The goal of the competition is to engage students with a variety of innovative technologies to help develop skills in collaboration, communication, critical thinking, and creativity.

Students prepared for months, using design software and 3D printers to build bridges and race cars, video editing software to produce public service announcements and “blockbuster” trailers, and VEX IQ Robot Kits to build robots that can navigate mazes and battle other robots.

This year’s results were:

- **Division 1**
  - 1st place: Sequoia
  - 2nd place: Computech
  - 3rd place: Kings Canyon

- **Division 2**
  - 1st place: Baird
  - 2nd place: Tehipite
  - 3rd place: Gaston and Scandinavian

“Our middle school students will show off some amazing tech and collaboration skills in a really fun environment. TOT is all about expanding student-centered and real-world learning experiences, one of the goals we have for our students.” Superintendent Bob Nelson
Student Spotlight

Destiny Edwards
Fresno High Construction Student Building a Future for Herself

Sophomore Destiny Edwards is a leader among construction students at Fresno High School. She helped redo her bedroom at age 13, including cutting the baseboards. Two years later, as a sophomore, the construction career pathway at Fresno High is the perfect fit for her.

Destiny inherited her interest in construction from her father, who works in roofing and painting. She said her family was not surprised at her affinity for construction – she has been working with her hands since she was young. And while she had already tackled small construction projects at home, this year in her Construction Technology I class she is learning to use more sophisticated tools, like a miter saw and a jig saw, and to measure properly. Her favorite project this year was building a bookshelf, which fulfilled the Personal Project requirement in Fresno High’s International Baccalaureate program. Destiny plans to attend college and pursue a career in residential construction and real estate.

Destiny was part of a six-student team that competed on March 12 in the Girl Build competition at Fresno High against another Fresno High team and a team from Duncan Polytechnical High School, and they won for Safety and Teamwork. The event, sponsored by National Association of Women in Construction Fresno Chapter 108, aimed to encourage female students to pursue careers in construction, traditionally a male-dominated field.

“I feel like women are underestimated in this industry. I think that women are more attentive to detail, and the precision of building in general.” Destiny Edwards.

“Destiny is always willing to take risks and has the initiative to learn. She is always willing to help her peers when a project gets tough. I believe Destiny will continue to lead and advocate for our program in a meaningful way.” Joel Osuna, Fresno High Construction Teacher
Project Smile
Sunnyside Students Promote Positivity

Photography students from Sunnyside High School took part in “Project Smile”, where 268 large black-and-white posters of smiling students and staff were attached to pillars, walls, and the face of each staircase.

More than 100 Sunnyside students spent part of their Saturday hanging up the 3-foot by 4-foot posters to surprise their schoolmates on Monday.

The big photo display, taken by teacher Tamela Ryatt’s classes, remained on campus through the end of the school year. The goal of the project was to promote happiness.

“This project, wonderful smiling faces of Sunnyside staff and students, will bring joy to the campus and the Sunnyside community. Our students are practicing real-world skills while also honoring our district’s value of people and our community.” Superintendent Bob Nelson

For more information on the project visit www.insideoutproject.net.
CTE WBL Champion

Duncan Wins WBL Champion Award

The 2021-2022 WBL Champion, an award given to the high school that goes above and beyond to offer Work-Based Learning (WBL) experiences for students, is Duncan Polytechnical High School.

This year, Duncan students earned over 3,000 industry certifications and participated in 330 internship opportunities.

In addition, students in Duncan’s IDATA and MASH Academies took part in over 600 mock interviews.

Duncan continues to offer meaningful WBL experiences for students that prepare them for college and career success upon graduation.
Employee Spotlight

Jeff DeLong
WBL Coordinator Honored with Award

Jeff DeLong, the CTE Work-Based Learning Coordinator, was selected as recipient of an IGNITE Worldwide annual champion award for his commitment to supporting girls and non-binary students in Fresno Unified. He was recognized as an IGNITE Community Creator for building an active and engaged education community committed to gender equity in science, technology, engineering, and math.

Amber Neulinger
Data Specialist Finalist for Excellence in Education

Every year, the District showcases employees nominated by their colleagues through the Excellence in Education awards. Amber Neulinger, the CTE Data Specialist, was selected as one of fifty finalists for the 2022 Excellence in Education award.

Gianni Danisi
TSA First to be Certified in STEM

Gianni Danisi, a teacher on special assignment in Career Education, is Fresno Unified’s first Nationally Certified STEM Teacher. His certification is a great testament to Gianni’s hard work and dedication to supporting science, technology, engineering, and math curriculum and activities. Gianni is certified by the National Institute for STEM Education.

Lynnette Brown
Project Manager Receives Mentor Award

Presented by Mentors Matter, Lynnette Brown was the recipient of a community award for those who have impacted the community or the lives of local youth.
CTE Industry Champions

Career Education Thanks...
Dwayne Ferguson from Reading Heart. Dwayne partners with CTE for Little Free Library projects and offers students virtual tours, presentations, internships, and mentorships.

He is a super advocate for CTE, learning, and literacy, and an ongoing thought partner sharing time and resources with our District. Dwayne and Danay (the founder of Reading Heart) are both also on the CTE Advisory Committee.

CTE Champions

Schools Recognize Outstanding Partners

- TyAnthony Davis, Davis Law Group
  Bullard
- Grace Durham, National University
  Duncan
- Kyle Lee, Rebuild Our Sierra
  Duncan
- Bitwise Industries
  Edison
- Rick Gonzalez, Self-Help Enterprises
  Fresno
- Dr. Jeanie Behrend, CSU Fresno, Retired
  Hoover
- Cesar Perez-Villegas, CMAC
  McLane
- Kevin Lisitsin, Farmers Insurance
  Patiño
- Paco Balderrama, Fresno Police Department
  Roosevelt
- Robin and Susan Kincade, Kincade Productions
  Sunnyside
Back Cover

“At the end of the day, we help students build a college and career foundation to thrive and grow.”

Yolanda Juarez, Vice Principal on Special Assignment

College & Career Readiness