

# Career Connected

Career Technical Education Program Spotlights

February/March 2024 – Issue No. 9

## Ambassador Training

Ambassadors learned with peers from other schools and engaged in networking, communication, recruitment, and leadership activities. The training was hosted at Patino School of Entrepreneurship with Dave Viotti from Smallify. Ambassadors joined together from our comprehensive high schools and learned how to network, recruit, communicate using different styles, be an advocate for themselves and others, and to follow through on commitments. They collaborated and participated in role play during recruitment activities, utilizing CTE Pathways & Programs information guidebooks to model the recruitment. Ambassadors enjoyed the fun and engaging training.

[Watch a photo montage from the CTE Ambassador training](#)

## Jurors for the Day

Roosevelt High School

This is an annual event sponsored by the Federal Bar Association in conjunction with participants from the federal judiciary, United States Attorney's Office, Federal Defender's office, and federal law enforcement agencies. Public Service students attend a criminal mock trial performed by actual members of the prosecution, defense, and judiciary departments. 12 students are selected to be members of the jury and are asked to decide the ultimate fate of the defendant. The remaining students observe the trial but at its conclusion are asked to break into separate groups to see how they would have decided the guilt or innocence of the defendant. After the trial, members of federal law enforcement and others explain their duties and answer questions of the students.

## Students Build Planter Beds

DeWolf High School

Aaron Ramirez and his students at DeWolf used left over material from the Trades Bowl to build raised beds at Phoenix Secondary for their ag program. With the help of Sunnyside High and Fresno High delivering materials, the students completed the project quickly.

## World Ag Expo

Phoenix Secondary

Some Juniors had an awesome time at the World Ag Expo! They experienced a full day starting with an Ag Careers Seminar, all about finding careers in the ag field, then participated in a scavenger hunt with 811, PGE, SoCal Energy, and one other booth with similar alternative energy initiatives learning about what they do and career opportunities. They saw a demo of a CNC machine and heavy-duty iron-cutting machine and stopped at the Barnes Welding Supplies booth, where the students learned how dry ice is made and used for welding!

## Student Producers at CMAC

Roosevelt High School

Interns have been working hard as a team producing a talk show called "Community Corner" where they reach out to local non-profits to be interviewed so they can share their positive impact on the community.

## Rehab Therapy Students Visit Fresno Pacific

Duncan Polytechnical High School

Junior and Senior Rehabilitation Therapy students at Duncan had the opportunity to visit Fresno Pacific University on February 9, 2024. This was a great opportunity for students to visit the college campus and learn about their programs. During this visit, students also had the experience of mock interviews. This study trip was one of the many examples to show the students in the Rehabilitation Therapy pathway are becoming college and career ready!

## Fresno State Trip

Patiño Entrepreneurship High School

Freshmen students in Project Management kickstarted their Fresno Is Hot project by hearing from Fresno State professors in both Engineering and Entrepreneurship. Students learned about many ways that these departments work to help alleviate effects of extreme weather with a focus on Fresno's extremely hot summers. Students had lunch with Fresno State before returning to Patiño and beginning to ideate on how to apply the learning towards their designs for a product. Students will create a product for a specific stakeholder to help alleviate effects of extreme heat. They will create prototypes and meet with stakeholder mentors for feedback before pitching final product ideas later this year.

## Future Technicians

DeWolf High School

Quinn CAT of Selma and Reedley college hosted their first Future Technicians Day. DeWolf students were able to tour the facility, see how the business runs, and learned the history of the Quinn company. Later in the day they were able to get in the dirt learning to drive skid-steer loaders and excavators, explore hydraulic systems, fire up diesel engines, and navigate wiring for some electrical. DeWolf's CTE Construction students are our future technicians.

## EdSource Magazine Feature

Bullard High School

Bullard High School Teacher Academy students will be featured in a coming issue of EdSource Magazine. A representative shadowed teacher academy students during their fieldwork placements to capture the work they do in the classrooms they intern in. EdSource is featuring FUSD Teacher Academy as part of a "Grow Your Own" Pipeline. The Teacher Academy Program develops and supports Fresno Unified School District high school students through their journey of becoming highly effective educators by utilizing the model of "Growing Our Own." The program offers students a variety of learning opportunities and exposure to careers in education through embedded workplace learning. The program outlines the steps to becoming a successful educator and provides a bridge to employment with Fresno Unified.

## Internship Student Gets Eye-Opening Work Experience

Bullard High School

Anisa Rivera, a student with in the general internship program, has really been integrated into the workforce of her internship provider, Fresno Heart and Surgical Hospital. Hospital staff have allowed her to shadow throughout the hospital, working and seeing many aspects of patient care and hospital administration. She is also allowed to scrub in and safely observe medical procedures.

During one such procedure, the patient coded and their vital signs dropped, and Ms. Rivera got to see medical staff go into full emergency mode. Fortunately the patient recovered, and Anisa walked away with the work-based learning experience of a lifetime.

## Bakery Career Exploration

Phoenix Secondary

Sandra Chaires Sanchez took her students to a local bakery for a sweet treat. During their career exploration, they got to see behind the scenes of how things are done in the kitchen as well as making a treat themselves!

## Peterson Automotive Museum Trip

Patiño Entrepreneurship High School

Students participated in an inquiry based tour and design thinking activities at the Peterson Automotive Museum. Students learned about how companies use the design process and iterate their ideas over time to provide products that meet customer needs. They brought these ideas back to the classroom to continue iterating on their own business ideas and how to improve them for their customer base.

## Guest Speaker Scott Miller

Patiño Entrepreneurship High School

Scott Miller, President and CEO of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce and owner of Gazebo Gardens, came to speak to Patiño students about starting a business. Emphasizing the value of a good mentor, Mr. Miller shared his own career journey, complete with tips for young entrepreneurs and how he learned from mistakes along the way. Students had a chance to ask questions about their own business plans, trends in successes and failures he's seen, how Gazebo Gardens has changed over time, and advice for up-and-coming businesses here in the Central Valley.

## My Guy Market Guest Speakers

Patiño Entrepreneurship High School

Floyd Sanchez and Eduardo Sixayratransy of My Guy Market spoke to the Business Startup Incubator classes about marketing strategies and how to create your brand. Sharing their individual career journeys, both speakers emphasized networking, building trust and a good relationship with clients, and starting small. They also spoke about providing a product or service that isn't offered in the local market and how to begin growing community awareness of that product or service. Students had the chance to ask questions about working in the food industry, marketing strategies for new small businesses, the role of social media and online marketing with the younger generation, and how to weigh using a third-party service or taking out a business loan to own a brick and mortar storefront.

## Warrior Entertainment Trip to IMAGO

Fresno High School

Warrior Entertainment students toured IMAGO and learned how technology and videography intersects to tell a story.

## Teacher Academy YLI Mentors

McLane High School

McLane's Teacher Academy has partnered with the Youth Leadership Institute (YLI). Senior Program Coordinator, Coach JV Villarreal, regularly meets with eight McLane students, preparing them to use their voices and leadership skills to create meaningful change in their communities. This year, these students were selected to mentor eighth grade students at Yosemite Middle School. Mentors prepare and facilitate activities during lunch, meeting every other Wednesday. A bit of pizza encourages the Yosemite students to build a trusting relationship with their McLane mentors, and then discuss a variety of topics that will prepare them in their transition to high school.

## Edison Health Fair

Edison High School

Edison Biomedical Pathway held its annual Health Fair. Students work with their teachers for several weeks, researching and connecting with industry partners to prepare for this event. This year, the 9th grade Biomed students presented their community-based health projects to a wide audience including industry partners, parents, Edison students, staff, and district representatives. Special guests this year included 6th grade regional students. Edison was able to bring future Tigers on site to interact with Edison students and participate in the event. Industry partners also play a big part in this event. Each year several partners participate with information and interactive booths. Students love to engage with partners and learn more about their industry and community. In addition to 9th grade students presenting, upper grade level students ran the show. They greeted guests, chaperoned the 6th grade students, helped with set up, gave project feedback, and everything in-between. This event doesn't happen without the collaboration of students, teachers, industry, and CTE department support!

## Engineering Day

Edison High School

This year, Edison Engineering held their Inaugural Engineering Day! This event was initiated to expose future Tigers to some of the exciting things that happen in the Engineering program. Sixth grade students from Columbia Elementary were invited to spend the day on campus. Engineering teachers created a rotation of events and Engineering students led it. The students did an incredible job working with Columbia students. Next year we hope to have all of the Edison regional elementary schools participate.

## Career Skills Challenge

Edison High School

Each year Edison sends students to compete at Career Skills Challenge hosted at Fresno City College. This year was no different except students came home with a little more swag. Edison took 5th place overall out of 62 schools competing and 2nd in their division.

Edison returned with a 3rd place in CPR, a 1st and 2nd place in Desktop Publishing, a 2nd place for the Sports Med team, a 3rd place in Visualizing Data for the Engineering team, and the Robotics teams swept the competition with a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. It was an amazing day for students and teachers. We are so very proud of them just putting themselves out there and working hard to meet their goals.

## Seniors Helping Seniors

Cambridge High School

Students from the Cybersecurity class are helping senior citizens learn online security. The program pairs a high school student with a resident of the Vineyard to teach them about technology and specifically internet scams. The two groups have met 3 times so far. The initiative started with Fresno Unified wanting to help the senior citizens, while giving students a chance to earn school credit.

Student Tucson Her said he's heard of some residents getting scammed and he's happy to help keep that from happening to anyone else. "It makes me feel great because it makes me more motivated to help people," said Her.

[Watch a news segment about this event](#)

## Patiño is Named a California Distinguished School

Patiño Entrepreneurship High School

Great news! Patiño has been named a California Distinguished School, one of the 293 middle and high schools selected for the prestigious recognition. Schools were selected by analyzing data reported through the 2023 Dashboard, with a focus on demonstrating excellence and growth in academic achievement and ensuring a positive school climate. Schools are recognized for exceptional student performance based on achieving exemplary performance in English language arts and math, reducing suspensions, and demonstrating high graduation rates.

[Click here for more information about Distinguished Schools.](#)

## FUSD Hires District's First Ever Logistics Instructor

Jonathan Hinojosa has been selected as the inaugural instructor of the new logistics program at the Farber Educational Campus. Jonathan worked for 14 years in the Fresno Unified warehouse and has been an office assistant at Cambridge High School since last spring. Jonathan has extensive professional and technical experience related to logistics, a booming career field. Jonathan is working on partnerships and projects with the Central California Food Bank, Amazon, and others.

## Ongoing Collaboration with Fresno Chaffee Zoo

Center for Advanced Research and Technology (CART)

For more than twenty years, high school students in the Environmental Science Lab at CART have worked closely with zookeepers to design enrichments for the zoo's animals. Through practical, hands-on experience, this partnership helps students develop a strong understanding of the relationship between science, conservation, and community service.

Through their partnership with the zoo, students can immerse themselves in the complexities of animal behavior and habitat requirements while honing their scientific skills in data collection and analysis. This year marks an exciting development as students from the Engineering Lab join forces with those from the Environmental Science Lab to create enrichments.

Under the guidance of their teachers and zookeepers, student teams from both labs take ownership of their creations, realizing the direct impact they have on the health of the zoo's residents. Students gain empathy and a sense of responsibility through this process, realizing that all animals deserve the best care and ongoing enrichment.

The collaboration between CART and the Fresno Chaffee Zoo serves as an example of the profound benefits of education and community involvement. It emphasizes the value of collaboration and interdisciplinary learning in cultivating the next generation of leaders.

## Thriving Beyond Class

Center for Advanced Research and Technology (CART)

Recently, Digital Marketing and Entrepreneurship Lab (DME Lab) students embarked on an enlightening journey to San Francisco, where they explored renowned advertising agency, Goodby, Silverstein & Partners (GS&P). GS&P is a beacon of creativity and innovation in the advertising world, boasting a global clientele and a team of over 300 talented individuals. DME students were granted access to GS&P's groundbreaking facility, witnessing firsthand the meticulous process of crafting successful advertising campaigns.

This annual field trip has become a cornerstone of the DME Lab's curriculum, providing invaluable insights and inspiration. Beyond the allure of cutting-edge technology, the trip fosters essential soft skills such as communication and teamwork. By stepping outside the classroom and into the industry, students gain a deeper understanding of industry dynamics and cultivate a spirit of innovation.

## Career Fairs

Job Developers recently held Career Fairs across high school campuses, showcasing FUSD's dedication to holistic student development and industry collaboration. These fairs provided hands-on experiences across various career pathways, fostering connections between students and professionals. The collaborative efforts bridged the gap between education and industry demands, offering opportunities for internships and future employment. Students gained confidence, inspiration, and practical skills, shaping a promising future workforce. These initiatives highlight Fresno Unified's commitment to comprehensive education and industry partnerships, setting standards for CTE programs nationwide and ensuring students are well-equipped for real-world success.

[Watch a video of Fresno High's Career Fair](#)

## GameHERS Award Winner

Julie Mavrogeorge, a Coordinator with the Career Technical Education team, won the Guardian of the Year award. This award honors an exceptional woman or femme-identifying individual who serves as an extraordinary mentor, teacher, guardian, student advisor, or parent. This accolade celebrates their unwavering dedication to fostering growth, resilience, and success in those younger gamers in their lives who are under their care. Recipients of this award exemplify the transformative impact of selfless guidance, making a profound difference in the lives of young people.

## AMAE Educator of the Year

Mexico has been celebrating El Día del Maestro (Day of the Teacher) every May 15th since 1918. Here in California, the Day of the Teacher was entered into legislation at the request of the Association of Mexican American Educators (AMAE). Día del Maestro is a day to honor and support the many individuals who accept the challenge of educating today's youth.

CTE teachers Aaron Ramirez from DeWolf High School and Joel Osuna from Fresno High School were both recognized at the banquet as Educator of the Year.

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