

Computech School

Edison Computech is a magnet school that focuses on math, science, and computers. In 1983, Computech was created as part of a comprehensive 7-12 magnet program which includes Edison High School, adjacent to the middle school campus. Computech is housed in the facility that was originally named Irwin Junior High School. The first buildings for Irwin Junior High were built in 1958-59, but the school was closed in 1977 as part of a district-wide plan for desegregation. Irwin students were bused to middle schools in other parts of the city. In turn, ninth graders from other high schools were bused to Edison High School for their freshman year only. The plan was not well received, so an alternative plan for voluntary desegregation was initiated in 1983. The plan included the 7-12 Computech program, the Roosevelt School of the Arts, and Duncan Polytechnic High School.

Sixth graders are recruited and apply to Computech 7-8 from every elementary school in the district. Students are encouraged to continue in the Computech 9-12 program to integrate Edison High School.

The focus of the Computech program is to increase authentic, real-life, in depth learning and assessment to achieve the following student outcomes:

- Strengthen critical thinking and decision-making skills
- Develop information retrieval and processing skills
- Increase effective communication in oral, written, and visual forms
- Apply technology as a communication and problem-solving tool
- Develop confidence and self-esteem

The goal is to prepare students for higher education, as well as to equip them to function successfully in a rapidly changing world.