

Career Connected

Career Technical Education Program Spotlights

August/September 2024 – Issue No. 11

Youth Voices Documentary

Fresno High School

Angeline Ruiz Cardenas, a Warrior Entertainment student, was one of 12 students selected for the 10-week Youth Voices documentary filmmaking program with CMAC, and she chose to create a film about the history of the Fresno Pride parade. Working throughout the summer and through a few logistical issues (such as what to do when your interview subject is in a different state), Angie created a very engaging and emotional film. Her documentary aired in September at Maya Cinemas.

Dairy Products Innovation Day

Patiño Entrepreneurship High School

Business students attended the Dairy Products Innovation Day held at Fresno State. They learned about new market trends and technical breakthroughs in product and process innovation. They also learned about the roles of the California Milk Advisory Board, the Pacific Coast Coalition - Dairy Business Innovation Initiative, and the universities that are working with them, as well as related programs and opportunities for next steps after high school.

Downtown Improvement

Patiño Entrepreneurship High School

From exploration & expert advisors to experiences and reflection: Freshmen undertake their first official Design Challenge to solve for the urban heat bubble on Fulton Street in Downtown Fresno. Students received a guided tour from Mark Standriff (Beautify Fresno, Director) and Elliott Balch (Downtown Fresno Partnership, CEO), taking notes and asking questions. Upon return to campus, students ideated on improvement ideas before pitching their best ideas to the group.

Camp Royal

Patiño Entrepreneurship High School

After attending the weeklong leadership Camp Royal, senior and Rotary Interact Club member Joshua Felipe returned to the Rotary Club of Fresno to share what he learned. He spoke about accountability, collaboration, and getting things done.

Burpee Challenge

Hoover High School

Four students completed the Fresno Fire 343 Burpee Challenge in honor of the firefighters who lost their lives in the 9/11 terrorist attack.

- Jacob McMahan, Senior P4 Ambassador - completed in less than 38 minutes!
- David Akintola, Senior P4 Ambassador
- Samuel Garcia, Senior P4
- Autumn McGuire, Junior P3 Ambassador

These students conquered something that most will never do! These students teamed up never gave up, even when it was hard, endured pain, & had that small voice in their heads telling them to give up. They all represented Hoover well & displayed "Patriot Pride" well in the public eye.

Going to the Midway

DeWolf High School

Students gear up with teacher Samuel LaPlaca to create projects for this year's Big Fresno Fair. They created benches and lanterns, decorated with themes. When engaging in this project-based learning, students learned new skills with safety as a priority.

ASVAB Testing

Hoover High School

Hoover hosted our first annual ASVAB test for CTE pathway students interested in the US military and trying to improve their trade school scores. Over 65 students signed up to take advantage of this opportunity.

Farbers Market Food Pantry

Farber Educational Campus

The Central CA Food Bank and the Logistics students at Farber are creating learning opportunities, where students are supporting the community of Farber and Winchell Elementary families with a full choice food pantry. Families came through the student union and warehouse CTE classroom to select nutritious food choices. The goal is to provide ingredients that can create several meals for families.

Germination Station

Phoenix Secondary

Students have been caring for their seedlings since the first week of school and are gearing up for a transplant. Phoenix Secondary Sustainable Agriculture is an incredible program that allows students to learn the entire cycle of plant life and the careers tied to it.

A Bright Future

Phoenix Secondary

Hope Now provided an inspirational story about overcoming many obstacles in life to create a better future for themselves. Students got to hear stories and learn about the strength needed to continue growing. Hope Now also provides job opportunities to those willing to put in the work.

Health Youth Corp

Design Science High School

Students from Design Science had to draw their "Perfect Community" for Health Youth Corp. Together they designed a community that had free health care, a senior center, school for children, a daycare that stayed open till 7pm, a farm that provided free food for the community, a hospital with free health care, a safe park for children to play, and a lake for all to enjoy.

Roosevelt High School

Seven Health pathway students -- 4 seniors and 3 sophomores -- committed to 24-25 Health Youth Corp. Students begin by picking their topic and are engaged with how they can make a difference in their community

Student Trainers Support Athletics

Sunnyside and McLane High Schools

Both Sunnyside & McLane student trainers came together to support the McLane VS Sunnyside football game. Great to see students keeping our athletes safe and healthy on both sides!

EECU Wiseup Presentation

Roosevelt High School

General Internship students spent a couple hours with EECU going over financial literacy, the importance of banking, credit, and how to be financially responsible.

Death Investigation

Center for Advanced Research and Technology (CART)

Retired Fresno County Coroner Lorelee Cervantes spoke to the students in the Forensic Research Lab about the role of a coroner at a crime scene. She dispelled the myths about how victims are identified, explained legal aspects of classifying cause/manner of death, and stressed the importance of integrity in this field of work. CART appreciates Ms. Cervantes and her over twenty-year commitment to the students in the Forensic Lab

Gnomon College Visitors

Center for Advanced Research and Technology (CART)

Students in CART's Interactive Game Design, User-Experience, Web Application Development, and Multimedia labs attended a presentation hosted by Annie Lucido and Claire Foxworth, outreach representatives of Gnomon School of Visual Effects. Gnomon is a private educational institution located in North Hollywood that offers bachelor degrees and post-baccalaureate certificates in fine arts with an emphasis on Digital Production. Through the practical application of video game creation software like Unreal Engine and Maya, students learn the entire "digital production pipeline." In the process, they are prepared for a variety of career options such as digital sculpting, hard surface modeling, texturing models, lighting, visual effects, and VFX animation.

Nova Farming Visits Multiple Sites

Nova Farming is a Black woman-owned company that educates youth and beginning farmers and ranchers in American and global agriculture. Rizpah Bellard, owner of Nova Farming, visited 3 Fresno Unified sites in September to share her passion for the Agriculture industry with TK-12 students in the Sunnyside Region. Ayer, Kings Canyon, and Phoenix have all had a chance to learn from Rizpah and interact with her chickens, sheep, goats, and swine. Through workshops and educational programs, Nova Farming seeks to empower individuals with valuable knowledge about sustainable agriculture, farm and ranch management, and animal husbandry, and our students have enjoyed learning from her and interacting with her livestock.

VPA Visits San Francisco

Sunnyside High School

Video Production Academy (VPA) juniors spent the day at San Francisco State to tour the Broadcast and Electronic Communications building and met with Robin Kincade who certified 30 of these students as production assistants last year. They ended the day with a Giants baseball game and learned all about the production behind a major league sporting event.

Students Explore Careers in Agriculture

CTE Agriculture students at Hoover and Kings Canyon as well as 5th Grade students at Robinson have been engaging in hands-on sustainable agriculture practices led by Fresno Metro Ministries around gardening including planting, seed saving, composting, and many other gardening techniques. Students are learning more about where and how they can grow their own food, even in an urban area, helping them envision a healthy future and more opportunities to think critically about their personal food choices. Students are looking at long term plans for a robust school garden at their site and working alongside industry professionals to create and maintain the school garden.

From 3 Schools to 1

Farber Educational Campus

For the first quarter of school, Farber Educational Campus has welcomed 13 professional guest speakers from multiple industry sectors, showcasing the joy and excitement of their particular career choice to students. Over 250 students have been able to learn from these individuals. Farber currently offers 4 dual enrollment classes this semester to build credits for their college and high school transcripts. Farber offers 4 CTE career programs to continue student engagement that they received from their home school.

Biomed Annual Pathway Kickoff

Edison High School

The Edison Biomed Pathway held their annual Pathway Kickoff event. This event is hosted by the Biomed teachers and is intended for students to have fun doing activities while getting to know instructors and other students in the pathway. This year close to 200 students participated in the festivities. It is always great fun and staff always enjoy it as much as the students.

FCC EMT Simulator Presentation

Edison High School

Carlos Chavez and Antonio Robinson from the Fresno City College EMT program presented information on the program to the senior Biomed class, then had students participate in skills that they would learn in the program. They brought the EMT simulator, which is a trainer that mimics the inside of an ambulance. Students received a tour of the simulator and participated in skills, such as life-saving CPR conducted by current FCC EMT program students. One of those students was an Edison Biomed graduate, Isaiah Reyes. He shared how much he enjoyed the program and how much the Biomed program had prepared him. It is always so exciting to hear from grads and to know what they gained from CTE programs.

Pepperdine Visits McLane

McLane High School

Pepperdine University recently visited McLane to deliver an informative presentation to juniors and seniors. The event provided students with valuable insights into the university's programs, campus life, and admission process. The representative shared information about academic opportunities, extracurricular activities, and support services available to students. Attendees had the chance to ask questions and engage in discussions about their interests and career goals. This presentation aimed to help students make informed decisions about their future educational paths. We appreciate Pepperdine's effort to connect with our students and inspire them as they consider their next steps after high school.

Fresno City College Registration

Patiño Entrepreneurship High School

Fresno City College representatives were on-site for an informative registration process and course offerings. A presentation was given to students and representatives assisted with on-line registration.

Fresno Pacific University

Sunnyside High School

Fresno Pacific University College visited Sunnyside High School during lunch, and students got the opportunity to learn about the college and the representative. This also gave our seniors a change to express their interest in careers with Mr. Vasquez, our FPU rep. Students also got the chance to win some cool swag!

MASH Students Prepare for Internships

Duncan Polytechnical High School

Each year before Duncan's Juniors and Seniors in the medical academy (MASH) start their unpaid internships (aka jobsite) industry partners come out to support students in receiving facility requirements. This includes tuberculosis assessments, seasonal flu vaccinations, and physicals. Duncan would like to thank CSU Fresno, National University, St. Mary's pharmacy, and FUSD health services for their support in ensuring our students are eligible to go to their pathway's medical facilities and gain hands-on experiences this year.

Athletic Training Student Aides

Bullard High School

The Bullard Athletic Training Student Aide program is up and running. Students have been volunteering their time with certified Athletic Trainer Ryan Lacy after school during practices and at football games against both Bakersfield and Clovis High. Athletic Training Student Aides have begun to learn how to tape, refill and provide water, set up the game day environment, and assist the ATC with other duties as assigned. Students will continue to have the opportunity to be involved in the program throughout the fall, winter, and spring sports seasons.

Public Service Seniors Bond

Roosevelt High School

Public Service seniors bonded over team building at the CSU Fresno ropes course, showing how they have gained team building and leadership skills from the pathway and will continue to practice their skills in the community

BHS Alumni Continues Giving Back

Bullard High School

It was an exciting day with TyAnthony Davis, the Law Pathway Consultant, as he met with students to discuss key school community issues! Through thoughtful conversations, students identified areas where they can advocate for change and make a real impact. It's inspiring to see the next generation of leaders come together to address challenges and create solutions.

Starting the School Year Strong

McLane High School

As the school year begins, McLane is thrilled to highlight a traditional start across their CTE programs, where students have already begun diving into hands-on, work-based learning experiences. Within the Medical Education & Research Academy (MERA), senior students have undergone HIPAA certifications in preparation for their internships at the VA hospital, while Health Youth Corps students are gearing up for this year's impactful projects. Across all grade levels, many students made a difference in public service through their volunteer work at the Walk Like MADD event.

Some students in the Academy of Finance & Entrepreneurship (AFE) have been busy delivering financial literacy lessons to their peers while others are beginning development of business plans for the STEP program. With the FARMS leadership field day kickoff and FBLA officer/advisor training behind them, participating students are well on their way to a productive year. US Bank interns are also getting valuable industry preparation through an exciting new curriculum. Art Venture Production Academy (AV) students are creating the weekly school news program with some delightful recurring segments.

Students also recently recorded their first podcast of the year featuring author and illustrator Edward Dennis. Additionally, they've had the opportunity to attend a Collegian staff meeting at CSUF, providing them with a venue to share mutual learnings and feedback around professional journalism.

Teacher Academy (TA) students are also off to a fantastic start, preparing to begin their mentoring roles at middle schools through the Youth Leadership Institute, as well as their regular internships at Wishon Elementary. Part of this preparation has included CPR certification prior to deployment into classrooms. Additionally, several students participated in FCCLA officer leadership training.

We are also excited to report on the success of the General Internship program. Students have been engaging in valuable onboarding and team-building activities, including the CSUF ropes course and Smallify training. Of course, these students have also been preparing, interviewing, and confirming placement for this year's upcoming internships.

Finally, the most recent game for homecoming created space for CTSOs organizing fundraising activities behind the stands, sports medicine students providing crucial support for athletes on the sidelines, and media students managing a livestream broadcast from multiple points around the field.

McLane teachers have collectively dedicated themselves to intentional planning around project-based learning to ensure students continue to have fresh, engaging experiences this school year and beyond.

Duncan Poly's College & Career Fair

Duncan Polytechnical High School

On September 20th, Duncan hosted its annual College and Career Fair, offering students a vibrant platform to explore various career and educational pathways. With over 30 exhibitors, including colleges, universities, businesses, and community organizations, students engaged with representatives from fields such as health care, public service, technical trades, and military careers. Organizations like Fresno State Army ROTC, Fresno City College Allied Health Division, and the United States Coast Guard provided insights into potential career opportunities. Students also connected with community service organizations like the Fresno Unified School District LGBTQ+ Support Team and the Central California SPCA, emphasizing civic engagement. Participants enjoyed hands-on activities and interactive discussions, making informed decisions about their futures. A heartfelt thank you to all exhibitors for their invaluable support, and we look forward to expanding these connections in the future!

Automotive Q&A with Future Ford

Duncan Polytechnical High School

Tracy Gill, Service Director of Future Ford of Clovis, and Ford representatives Bob and Juan engaged in a valuable Q&A session with Duncan 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students. Their insights and experiences were inspiring to the next generation of technicians and leaders. Future Ford also donated a brand new Lincoln Aviator to the program to enhance student learning. This coupled with student internships starting in October will have impacts on students for years to come and we could not be more appreciative!

Resume Workshop

Farber School of Credit Attainment

The Farber career center hosted a Resume Workshop that housed 35 students in the Cybersecurity Lab. The workshop helped blend the students' previous experience and skills if they had any. Staff helped students to convey on their resume their work experience they had earned up to this point in their career. In each student's resume, staff helped them show highlights of different achievements.

Black Rocket Recruiting Event on Campus

Fresno High School

FHS held a lunch time informational and recruiting event with our after school partner Black Rocket. Students were able to ask questions, and many students were forwarded on to HR for open positions.

Ambassadors Start Recruitment Season

Duncan Polytechnical High School

From September to November, Duncan Ambassadors have the privilege of returning to their middle schools to share information on the amazing programs and experiences available to students at Duncan. Ambassadors are trained to speak about all Duncan pathways, programs, activities, and supports, and also can explain the application process. Ambassadors love representing their pathways and getting to show their middle school teachers the things they have learned and how they have grown as leaders!

Ambulance/CPR Training

Farber School of Credit Attainment

The students went through a workshop and hands-on training with teacher John Mendoza on how to provide medical assistance to a person with a broken neck or spinal injury. The training will enable them to provide medical assistance to an injured party. Students learned how to safely stabilize, load, and transport an injured party onto an ambulance.

College Presentations

Roosevelt High School

Students got an opportunity hear about some wonderful college options available to them locally and outside of Fresno, such as Cal Lutheran University, UC Irvine, and the Fresno State Criminology program. They received information about the admissions process, the cost to attend, and campus life.

9th Grade Stop the Bleed Certification

Fresno High School

Students enrolled in the freshman Innovative Design Studio course received Stop the Bleed training and certification. They learned three techniques to help save a life before someone bleeds out:

- How to use your hands to apply pressure to a wound
- How to pack a wound to control bleeding
- How to apply a tourniquet correctly

These three techniques will empower students to assist in an emergency and potentially save a life.

Camera Club Photographs the “Battle of Barstow”

Bullard High School

Elijah McCormick and Xitlalith "Lally" Miguel photographed with the Varsity Football game with their Digital Photography instructor, Ray Waller.

Field Trip to the Central Valley Career Fair

Fulton School

Students from Fulton School attended the Central Valley Career Fair, held at the Sierra Vista Mall. Students prepared for the career fair weeks prior during their "Work Wednesday" sessions held once a week. In preparation for the event, Career Technical Education staff Garrett Main, Christine Morehead, and Theresa Sanchez prepped students with resume workshops and career readiness lessons.

Valley Air Mentorship

Fresno High School

Industry partner Valley Air & Repair gifted the HVAC/R Technician program furnaces to learn and work on. They understand the importance of real-world experiences in the classroom.

Project Manager Recognized

Krishna Reyes, a Project Manager in the CTE department, was recognized by members of the Air Force for his outstanding support of Air Force Recruiting Service and his dedication to the ideals and principles of the United States.

Annual Year in Review

The 2023-2024 CTE Year in Review is now available to read on our website! Check out a selection of stories previously published in Career Connected, as well as expanded stories, highlights from the summer, the year's WBL Champion, teacher and staff highlights, and more!

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