

CONNECTING PASSION TO PATHWAY

LEGACY



CAMPUS

**Advanced Robotics
competitions**

Mike Shallenberger

**From Chef de Cuisine
to classroom**

Shaemus O'Brien

**The future of
Legacy Campus**

Phase II plans

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Legacy Campus is to cultivate a Career and Technical Education environment where post-secondary and industry partnerships provide relevant learning opportunities for high school students and the Douglas County community in order to ensure a competitive advantage and workforce readiness.

I AM THRILLED TO PRESENT the Annual Report of the DCSD Legacy Campus, marking the culmination of our inaugural year, the 2023-2024 school year. This report serves as a reflection on our journey so far, showcasing the successes we've achieved, the challenges we've faced, and the growth we've experienced as a new central offering of Career and Technical Education (CTE) in Douglas County School District.

Since opening our doors in August 2023, the Legacy Campus has quickly established itself as an additional "hub" for CTE and Concurrent Enrollment (CE) opportunities for high school juniors and seniors. Having now served 400 students from every one of our district's nine comprehensive neighborhood schools and five alternative campuses in our pathways, we've had an incredibly strong start. The enthusiasm and engagement of our students have been truly inspiring, and it's clear that there is a growing demand for the specialized, hands-on learning opportunities that Legacy provides.

At the heart of everything we do is our mission: to cultivate a CTE environment where post-secondary and industry partnerships provide relevant learning opportunities for high school students and the Douglas County community in order to ensure a competitive advantage and workforce readiness. Our tagline, "Connecting Passion to Pathway," perfectly encapsulates this mission as we strive to help students turn their passions into viable career paths.

In this report, you'll find key data points highlighting our first-year achievements, including awarding 700 high school credits and nearly 3,400 concurrent or dual enrollment college credits. These numbers represent tangible academic progress and underscore the success of our approach to integrating college-level coursework into the high school experience. The overlay of the industry certifications earned in year one is a testament to our commitment to becoming a talent pipeline and a driver for local industry.

The report also spotlights some of our outstanding faculty members who have been instrumental in making this first year a success. Their dedication to creating innovative, engaging learning environments has driven our students' achievements. You'll also hear directly from our students and their parents, whose reflections provide valuable insight into Legacy Campus' impact on their educational journeys.

Looking ahead, we are excited about the future of Legacy Campus. We are committed to expanding our programs and continuously improving our educational experiences. With a 50% increase in enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year, we are poised for even greater success as we continue to meet the needs of our students and community.

Thank you for your continued support and belief in the mission of the DCSD Legacy Campus. Together, we are building a legacy of excellence in education that will empower our students to thrive in the modern world. Sincerely,



Rex M. Corr, Ed.D.
Director, DCSD Legacy Campus



From students

“Legacy is a great way to pave a path for your future” — Alex Allen, *Building Controls Technology student*



“I enjoyed the fact that I could show up to class today knowing that there would be something new and interesting to learn. My favorite specific experience was when the bomb squad came and did a demo, showing us a bomb disposal robot, even allowing us to drive it. Overall I am grateful for this experience and appreciate all the resources and opportunities that Legacy offers.”
— Coen Rauch, *Advanced Robotics student*

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“Legacy Campus truly gives students the opportunity to gain knowledge and experience in their pathway to make their dreams come true!

“Show up, pay attention, befriend your classmates, and think about how your class will help you in your life (IT’S WORTH IT!).” — Mackenzie Lonson, *Aviation student*

“I had the chance to attend the Future Educator Advisory Board meeting and teacher grade-level meetings while participating in my field experience which really gave me an insight on what teachers need from parents and their superiors. I had so much fun in my classes! It gave me a taste of the college life that I am now living!” — Josie Fernandez, *Future Educator student*



“My favorite thing about Legacy is the community. Because everyone has similar interests, there’s an innate connection formed among classmates. We’re all here to learn and support each other’s learning journey.” — Mackenzie Warcholik, *Future Educator student*



“Legacy encouraged my daughter to be pushed to a new level, to make decisions such as, ‘I’m going to take a different path,’ or ‘I absolutely love this path and I’m going to continue it.’”
— Nicole Lonson



“Our son has been more passionate, more enthusiastic about going to school.”
— Debra Yarcho



“It’s just lit her up. She loves coming here and and wants to pursue it in college.”
— Peter Rasmussen

“

“The excitement for him just to be here, in a hands-on environment, in an area of interest, propelled him. And it changed his outlook on his senior year, it changed the vibe and feel for us as a family toward his education.



“They’ve done a phenomenal job of giving a variety of paths for kids to choose to ignite that passion, to ignite that next level version of what they want to do with their lives.”
— Brad Wiidakas



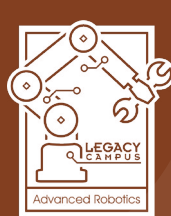
“The variety of programming they have to offer is really invaluable!”
“I’ve watched my daughter blossom with some professionalism that I wouldn’t have seen otherwise.”
— Kristi Fitch

From parents



OUR PATHWAYS

Legacy Campus offers 9 diverse pathways: Advanced Robotics, Architectural Engineering, Aviation/Transportation, Building Controls Technology, Culinary/Hospitality Management, EMT/EMS, Future Educator, Nursing (CNA), and Secure Network Technologies. Each pathway is designed to provide specialized skills and knowledge for future career success.



*Legacy has changed
the way I see education.*

IAN FITZPATRICK
Building Controls Technology student

LEGACYCAMPUS.ORG/PATHWAYS

*Legacy Campus gives students
the opportunity to make
their dreams come true.*

MACKENZIE LONSON
Aviation student

First-year success



3,391
College Credits Earned

92%
Graduation Rate (Legacy Seniors)

695.5
High School Credits Earned

96%
Attendance Rate (Legacy Coursework)

3.51
Cumulative GPA - #2 in DCSD!

\$1,081,230
Tuition Saved by Legacy Families

Advanced Robotics

MIKE SHALLENBERGER

Advanced Robotics Pathway Developer

Do you think your early interest in the trades set you on a path to where you are today?

Yes, my interest in the trades absolutely impacted who I am today, and why I chose to be a teacher. When I discovered my mechanical aptitude and developed those skills, I felt like I had an ability that was valued and needed. I felt like I finally started to understand who I was, and what I was capable of. I wanted to become a teacher to help others feel this same success. I want to help students see their aptitude and their skills, and how they can excel in an area where they are gifted and feel rewarded for what they can do.

How would you describe the Advanced Robotics Pathway to those unfamiliar with the program?

Our Advanced Robotics program is a comprehensive program for Robotics and Automation which includes Motors and Controls, Fluid Power (Pneumatics), Industrial Wiring, and of course Robotics. Students get to learn how to program the new FANUC CRX (Collaborative Robot Series), and other industry standard skills, and earn industry certifications. And, we also do battle bots, that's pretty fun. As buildings become more advanced and automated, they incorporate more sophisticated systems, there is a lot of crossover between the areas covered in Robotics and Building Controls Technology (BCT). We are excited about our BCT program and how our equipment will train students for high-demand careers in electrical and building automation.

How do your students benefit from having an instructor with your skill set?

I think the biggest thing that I bring to the table is passion. I love working with people, and I like electrical things. I was an electrician before I started teaching, and I still enjoy it. Having been around

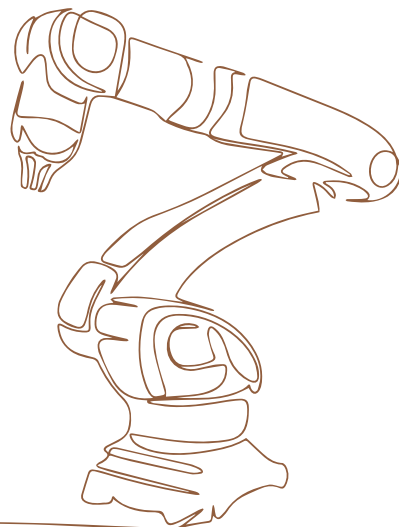
electrical technology most of my life makes it like second nature, and I get to teach students about technology that can launch them into a great career. Our students are earning industry certifications such as SACA Electrical Systems, 3-phase Sequencing, Pneumatic Systems, Snap-on Multimeter, etc. I am also able to offer OSHA 10 safety in class as an OSHA Authorized Trainer.

How do the robotics classroom and its amenities support and enhance the learning experience?

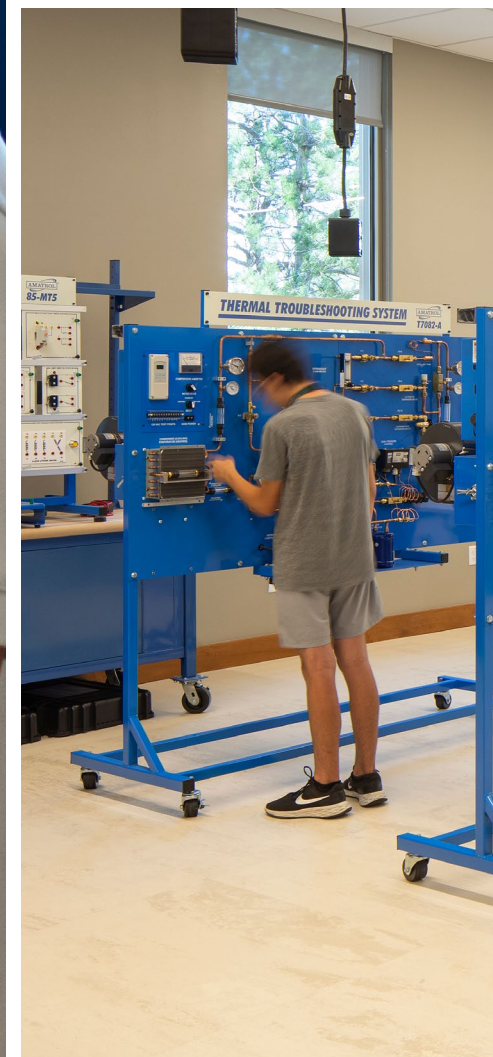
Our facility is amazing! I feel so blessed to be able to teach here. Our students have access to and get to train on some of the best equipment available. The labs that we get to work in are fantastic, and very well equipped. But also the people I work with are second to none. The Legacy team is a huge part of what makes this place so special.

Will you encourage your students to participate in industry competitions?

I think competitions are great, and they really amplify learning, teamwork, critical thinking, and so much more. Our program will support students involved in events such as TSA, as well as offer some other competitions that other schools may not offer, like battle bots. We are also working intensively with industry partners to create opportunities for students to work with professionals, learning to apply their newly learned skills in real-life, relevant ways.



...the people I work with are second to none. The Legacy team is a huge part of what makes this place so special.





Chef O'Brien is the best teacher and he has given me incredible opportunities throughout the year.

— Mazia Moku-Greaser, Culinary student



Gourmet give-back

**EXECUTIVE CHEF HAS DONE IT ALL;
NOW HE'S PREPPING THE NEXT GENERATION**

Breaking away from a career full of success in the corporate world to teach aspiring culinary professionals at the high school level might seem shocking to some. But for Shaemus O'Brien, the Legacy Campus executive chef and culinary and hospitality pathway developer, it was a clear choice when he heard about the campus becoming a CTE center, along with the launch of a pathway program.

"Given my long-standing experience in the industry, I saw it as a fantastic opportunity to give back and support the field I've been passionate about for years," he said. "It felt like a natural transition where I could contribute my knowledge to help shape the next generation of professionals."

Legacy Campus culinary students benefit from the career of a chef and leader with a supremely impressive resume. O'Brien has more than 25 years in professional kitchens, serving as director of Food and Beverage for the Pyramid Hotel Group, executive chef for Hilton Hotels and the University of Denver, chef de cuisine at the Castle Pines Golf Club PGA Golf Watch Pavilion, district executive chef for Sodexo Hospitality, catering chef for Trinity College, research and development chef for Kim's

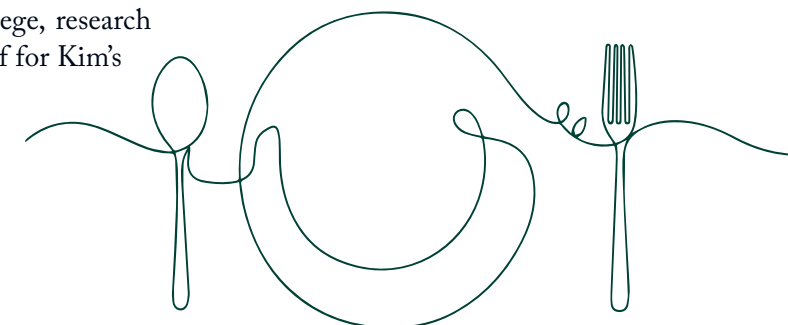
Gourmet Sauces, and host intern executive chef for Johnson & Wales University.

He said the most rewarding part of his current job is interacting with students who are passionate about pursuing careers in this field. "It's fulfilling to help guide and mentor them as they prepare for their future," he said. "Additionally, collaborating with industry professionals to ensure we're teaching best practices ensures students are career-ready and up to date with the latest industry standards."

For students intent on careers in professional kitchens and the hospitality industry, O'Brien says recent corporate-world emphasis on tuition reimbursement, on-the-job training, positive work environments, and employee retention programs all make the culinary field an attractive pathway.

On the flip side of that same coin, O'Brien has found the move to teaching high school students just as rewarding. He said he's been pleasantly surprised by the passion and talent that some current students have before any instruction from a professional leader.

*... I saw it as a
fantastic opportunity
to give back and
support the field I've
been passionate about
for years.*



...the dreams I have now were only
achievable through Legacy.

DECLAN HANSEN

Aviation student



Espne Kaul
First Solo Flight
09/09/2024
KAPA - airport code for Centennial
N1774T -Tail Number
Cessna 172 Skyhawk - aircraft

Students in the field

Trey Fast is a senior at Thunder Ridge High School doing a paid apprenticeship with Mikron. "My position at Mikron is a Mechanical technician. As part of the apprenticeship program, I assemble machines and troubleshoot issues with them. Legacy really helped me to get an understanding about pneumatics, something that is very commonly applied at Mikron. I also learned about motors and electric circuits. All of these skills are really important for my job."



Coen Rauch is an Ascent student at Arapahoe Community College working at Convergent. "In the past few months, I have been speaking with Convergent to set-up an internship that would align with my current school schedule. Recently we were able to work something out and are now completing the final details. I'm expected to start working with them next week. As far as the details about what I will be working on, it's mainly entry level CAD work and some general logistics work to assist the engineering team. Through Ascent I'm taking various general education courses at ACC. I'm taking Calculus 2 and Physics 1 along with a Macroeconomics course. I decided to pivot from Robotics and Automation to Mechanical Engineering as my major. The main way the Legacy Campus prepared me for this opportunity is by providing me with the connections to Convergent and other similar places. I wouldn't have this opportunity if Mr. Shallenberger hadn't provided the contact information for Convergent. So for that I am grateful."

Promises made & kept

EVENTS AT LEGACY

Legacy Campus serves as a vibrant community hub, hosting more than 100 events and meetings in 2023-2024. This space fulfills its promise as a dedicated facility for both students and the community, featuring a diverse range of activities. By fostering collaboration and celebration across educational, cultural, and community spheres, Legacy Campus strengthens the bonds within Douglas County, making it an invaluable resource for all.



Let us host your next event...

LEGACYCAMPUS.ORG/EVENTS

Legacy's top-notch educational program provides students with unparalleled support.

ANNA MERCETIC
Architecture student

DISTRICT EVENTS

- Career fairs
- School fundraising auctions
- Sports banquets
- Spelling Bees
- Art shows
- Graduations
- Retirement celebrations

COMMUNITY EVENTS

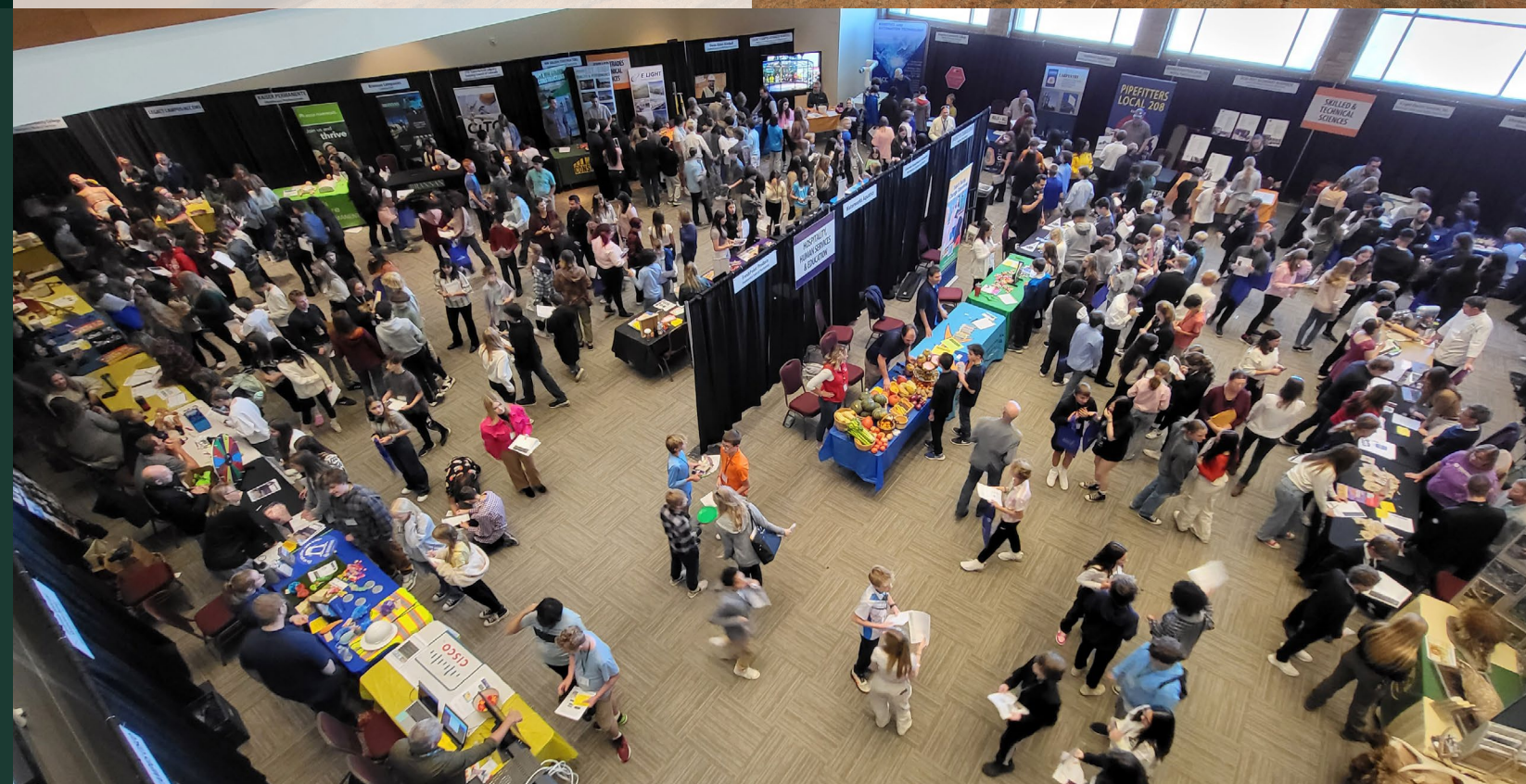
- Rotary and Chamber
- Bar Mitzvahs
- Weddings
- NYT Bestselling Author

MONEY SAVED

DCSD saved almost one million dollars in event rental space for student programs!

CONTACT LEGACY EVENTS

303-387-7907 | LC.Events@dcsdk12.org



Onward & upward

OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXPANSION

The 2024 Bond would be an investment in school safety and security upgrades; Career and Technical Education opportunities for students; and updating, maintaining, equipping, replacing, and constructing educational facilities consistent with the district bond plan to provide safe and adequate learning spaces for students and staff, and to reduce overcrowding throughout the district.

The passing of the bond would allow for Phase II of Legacy Campus, which includes building out 20,000 square feet for four additional CTE pathways:

- ▶ Carpentry
- ▶ Electrical
- ▶ Advanced Manufacturing
- ▶ Electric Vehicle/Hybrid Maintenance & Repair

Learn more about the 2024 Bond

FUNDING.DCSDK12.ORG

*Legacy fosters a
lifelong love of learning.*

MACKENZIE WORCHILIK

Future Educator

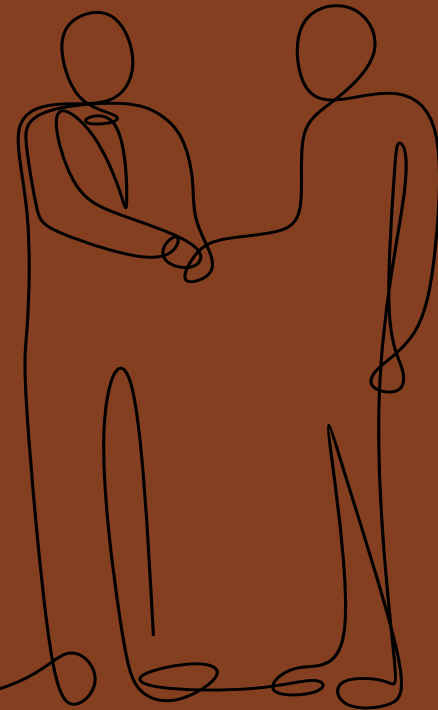


Support our mission

PARTNERSHIPS WITH LEGACY

The DCSD Legacy Campus acts as a bridge connecting students, public education, and industry leaders. It goes beyond traditional classroom learning and offers students hands-on experiences that help shape them into future leaders, innovators and change-makers.

To give students a competitive edge, the Legacy Campus actively seeks partnerships with local businesses and organizations – an essential step in building strong community connections that enable Legacy students to actively participate in the world around them.



Partner with us

LEGACYCAMPUS.ORG/ABOUT/PARTNERSHIP

Students not only start building experience in their chosen fields in high school but also begin to create connections with future employers who want bright candidates. With today's job market being competitive, getting in early puts you ahead of many others.

GEOVANE RAMOS
Secure Network Technologies student

Pillars of Partnership

EXPERTISE

- ▶ Advisory boards
- ▶ Speaking engagements
- ▶ Classroom or job-site demonstrations
- ▶ Project or team mentorship

WORK-BASED LEARNING

- ▶ Field trips and events
- ▶ Job shadow/internships
- ▶ Credit for work
- ▶ Apprenticeships
- ▶ Talent pipeline development

EQUIPMENT

- ▶ Donation of equipment
- ▶ Opportunities to train on new equipment
- ▶ Industry-sponsored projects to real use in the field

SPONSORSHIP

- ▶ Student scholarships (college credit, certifications, etc.)
- ▶ Sponsors for events, competition teams, or projects
- ▶ Marketing – sponsors for student shirts, etc.
- ▶ Tax-deductible donations



CONNECTING PASSION TO PATHWAY

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