

MAGNET SCHOOLS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM GRANT

VISION for Kendall, Ponus Ridge & P-TECH K-12 Pathway

Vision Statement

Our MSAP schools are pioneering institutions dedicated to equipping students with the skills, knowledge, and experiences necessary to thrive in the modern workforce. By seamlessly integrating relevant and current technologies with practical workforce development, we prepare students to excel in a rapidly evolving technological landscape while fostering a passion for innovation and lifelong learning.

School Environment

**1. Modern Learning Spaces:

- **Flexible Classrooms:** Spaces designed for both individual and collaborative work, with movable furniture and advanced technology infrastructure.
- **Tech Labs:** State-of-the-art computer labs and maker space labs equipped with high-performance computers, robotics kits, 3D printers, and virtual reality systems.
- **Industry-Simulated Environments:** Areas that mimic real-world workplaces, such as coding studios, design studios, and business incubation hubs.

**2. Curriculum Integration:

- **Early Exposure to Tech:** Introduce basic computer science concepts and coding from an early age through interactive games and problem-solving activities.
- **Integrated Learning:** Projects that combine coding and varied aspects of technology with subjects like math, science, and humanities to show real-world application of technology skillsets.
- **Career Pathways:** A clear curriculum path that offers specialized tracks in areas such as software development, cybersecurity, automation, data science, and digital design.

**3. Hands-On Experience:

- **Internships and Apprenticeships:** Partnerships with local businesses and tech companies to provide students with real-world work experiences.
- **Project-Based Learning:** Opportunities for students to work on real projects, either independently or in teams, solving genuine problems for community organizations or local businesses.
- **Industry Certifications:** Programs that offer certification in various technology-related fields, such as coding languages, cybersecurity, networking and cloud computing.

**4. Teacher Expertise:

- **Professional Development:** Ongoing training for teachers in the latest technologies and teaching methodologies.

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- **Industry Collaboration:** Teachers foster experience in the tech industry or active partnerships with tech professionals to bring current, relevant knowledge into the classroom.

**5. Extracurricular Activities:

- **Thematic Tech & Workforce Clubs:** Robotics clubs, coding clubs, and participation in national and international competitions to foster enthusiasm and skill development beyond the classroom.
- **Hackathons, Tech Competitions and Tech Fairs:** Events where students can showcase their projects, collaborate with peers, engage in healthy competition with troubleshooting demands and interact with industry professionals.

**6. Community and Parental Involvement:

- **Advisory Boards:** Involvement of industry experts in curriculum development and school governance to ensure alignment with current industry needs.
- **Workshops for Parents:** Sessions to help parents understand and support their children's career aspirations and technology education.

**7. Career Counseling and Guidance:

- **Career Exploration Programs:** Guidance on various career paths within tech, including emerging fields and traditional roles.
- **College and Career Readiness:** Support for college applications, scholarship opportunities, and pathways to technical certifications and vocational training.

Student Outcomes

By integrating workforce development and technology into the core of the curriculum, the school aims to produce:

- **Tech-Savvy Graduates:** Students proficient in coding, digital literacy, and technological problem-solving.
- **Career-Ready Individuals:** Graduates with hands-on experience, industry certifications, and a clear understanding of their career pathways.
- **Innovative Thinkers:** Students capable of tackling complex problems with creativity and technical expertise.

This vision sets a foundation for creating a K-12 school pathway that not only delivers current and relevant technology skills, but also prepares students for the diverse and evolving world of our workforce.