

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the inaugural edition of the Galveston ISD
Career & Technical Education (CTE) Newsletter!

Each quarter, we'll highlight the innovative programs, student achievements, industry partnerships, and classroom experiences that make GISD CTE a leader in preparing students for success beyond graduation. We're excited to share the incredible work happening across our campuses as we continue empowering students to explore their passions, build real-world skills, and discover pathways to their future careers.

CTE District of Distinction

Galveston ISD is proud to announce its selection as a Career and Technical Education (CTE) District of Distinction by the Career and Technical Association of Texas (CTAT). This prestigious recognition honors school districts across the state that demonstrate exemplary leadership, innovation, and commitment to preparing students for success through high-quality CTE programs.

The CTE District of Distinction program highlights districts that excel in workforce readiness, foster innovation in CTE, and inspire others through their dedication to student achievement and community partnerships. Honored districts serve as models of excellence, showcasing best practices and driving progress in career and technical education statewide.

About the CTE District of Distinction Program:

The Career and Technical Association of Texas established the CTE District of Distinction program to celebrate outstanding CTE initiatives across the state. Honored districts are selected based on their ability to meet rigorous criteria that include innovative programming, industry-based certifications, alignment with workforce needs, and exceptional student outcomes.

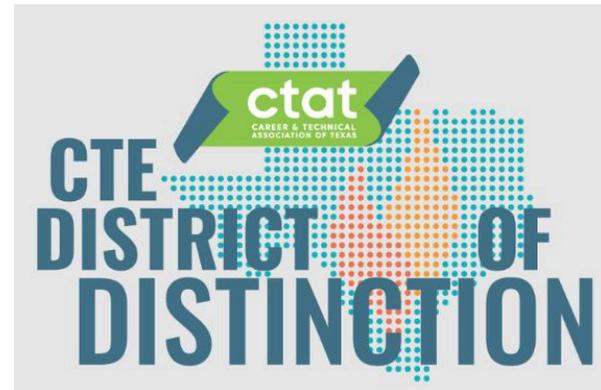
Why This Matters:

As a CTE District of Distinction, Galveston ISD joins a select group of districts recognized for advancing workforce development and educational excellence. This designation not only celebrates the district's achievements but also opens new opportunities for collaboration with education and industry leaders—further supporting the district's mission to prepare students for success in a rapidly evolving economy.

CTE Leadership at Galveston ISD

Galveston ISD's CTE programs are built on a foundation of innovation, workforce alignment, and a deep commitment to student success. The district maintains strong partnerships with organizations such as UTMB, the Port of Galveston, Moody Gardens, The San Luis Hotel, and Gulf Copper, among others.

Recently, Galveston ISD expanded its programs of study to include Maritime, Distribution & Logistics, Surgical Technology, and Radiography, being one of only two such programs in the entire state of Texas. These pathways provide students with hands-on experiences, industry-based certifications, and the skills necessary to thrive in high-demand careers.



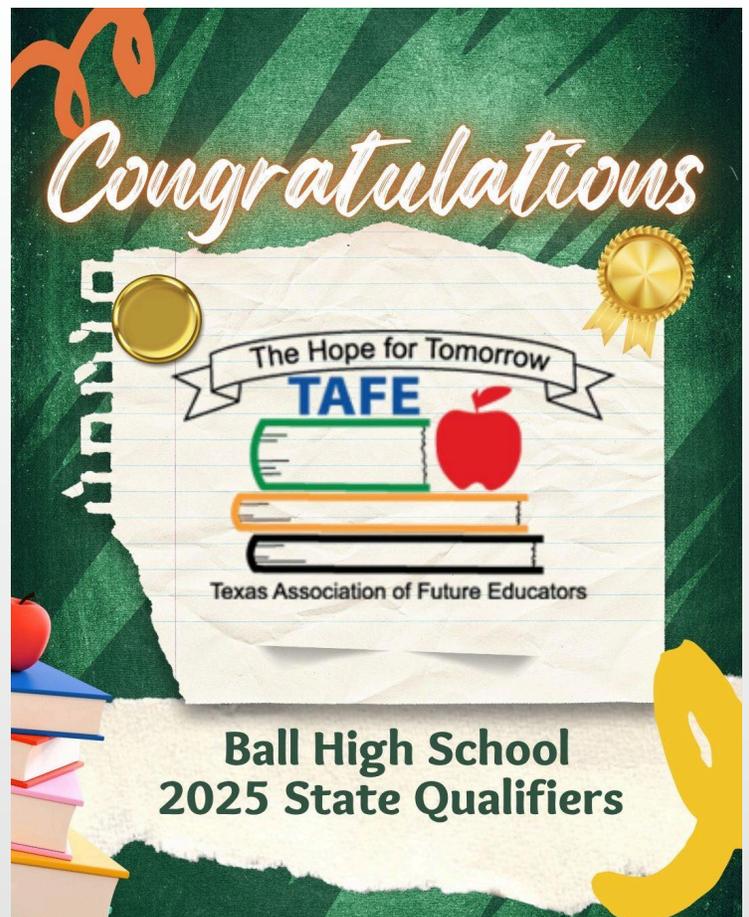
National Technical Honor Society Induction:

CTE inducted 25 new Ball High CTE students into the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS). National Technical Honor Society is the honor society for Career & Technical Education (CTE). As a national non-profit student organization, NTHS has been recognizing outstanding student achievement in CTE since 1984. Having served over 1.2 million members in secondary and postsecondary chapters across the country and beyond, NTHS continues to support the next generation of skilled workers and leaders through chapter activities built around our Core Four Objectives of career development, leadership development, service, and recognition.



What an incredible day for GISD Robotics!

The Robotics program and CTE department shined at DaVinci Day at the Galveston Children's Museum. Mr. McIntyre's Ball High students wowed visitors with a mini-golf course they built with VEX components and custom parts they created in the FabLab, while Ms. Hardeman's Central Middle School students did an outstanding job running the booth—showcasing robotics cubes, LEGO kits, and even demonstrating one of our robot dogs. Fantastic work by all involved!



Help us congratulate our TAFE students who earned top placements at Regionals and are heading to the TAFE State Competition!

We are so proud of the hard work they put into their events!

Congratulations to our State Qualifiers:
Rowan Catarino, Falyn Cruz, Grace Drzymała, Jaelyn Dykes, Kenia Flores, Addison Gonzales, Anais Lopez- Rodriguez, Stephen Morales and Ariana Rodriguez



👩‍⚕️ Ball High Health Science Students in Action!

Ball High Health Science students have been hard at work exploring the fascinating world of healthcare this semester!

Our **Principles of Health Science** classes kicked off by diving into the History of Healthcare and creating their very own Healthcare Heroes posters, proudly displayed in the hallway shadow box. Students also learned about the benefits of insurance and held a lively class debate to determine which insurance plan reigned supreme! Students honed essential soft skills through fun team-building activities, learned how to build professional résumés, and even created waiting room dioramas to showcase their understanding of healthcare environments. To top it off, students practiced suturing techniques during an interactive UTMB workshop, getting a real taste of what it's like to work in the medical field!

In **Medical Terminology**, students combined creativity and science in a variety of hands-on projects. They constructed life-size skeletons through a bone unscrambling challenge, created comic strips illustrating the path of the immune response, and built paper-mâché anatomical hearts. Students also designed a lung model to demonstrate how the diaphragm enables breathing and conducted a muscle fatigue lab to explore how muscles move the body. To deepen their anatomy knowledge, they examined the cardiovascular system up close by dissecting real sheep hearts and compared them to a real human heart model.

Our **Intro to Imaging** students explored the planes, cavities, and regions of the body by designing personalized mini-me models and performing a gummy bear dissection lab using sagittal, axial, and coronal planes. They also conducted a flashlight lab to observe how distance affects image quality—mimicking the penumbra effect seen in radiography. To put their understanding of radiologic equipment into practice, students built box models of a collimator to demonstrate how light and radiation fields are controlled. They wrapped up the unit with an exciting field trip to the Galveston College Health Science Building, where they toured the labs and discovered future opportunities in the program.

It's been an exciting, hands-on start to the year for our Ball High Health Science students—future healthcare professionals in the making! 💜💛



Ball High Law CTE Students Tour Galveston County Jail

Fourteen Ball High School students from the Law and Public Service – Paralegal Studies Program gained real-world insight into the criminal justice system during a tour of the Galveston County Jail on October 30, 2025.

Led by Sheriff's Deputy Supervisors, the Dual Credit students explored several areas of the facility, including prisoner intake and processing, holding cells, medical services, security observation, and courtroom transport.

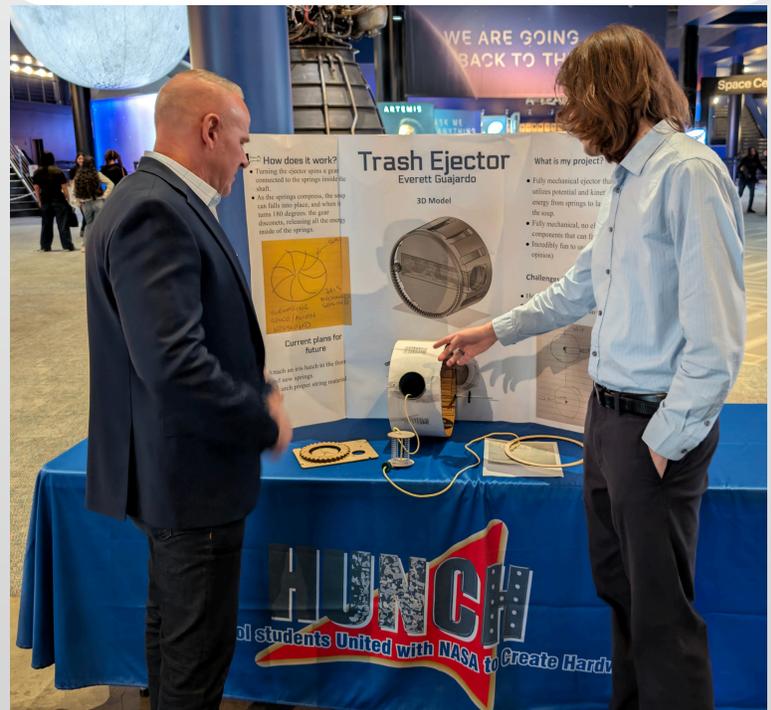
Throughout the three-hour visit, students learned about the many career opportunities within the jail system and engaged in discussions with deputies about work schedules, pay scales, application procedures, and educational pathways. They also gained a better understanding of the safety protocols that protect both staff and inmates.

The Ball School CTE High Law and Public Service Career Cluster prepares students for careers in legal services, public safety, protective services, and homeland security. Opportunities in this field range from police officer and firefighter to political scientist and contract law professional.



Exciting Start for Business Information Management!

Our Business Information Management (BIM) class is off to a fantastic start! Students are practicing their Microsoft Office skills in preparation for our first Microsoft Office Specialist certification exam using the program Microsoft Word. These certifications are key to demonstrating skills essential for success in school, post-secondary education, and the workforce.



Everett Guajardo participated in the Preliminary Design Review for the NASA HUNCH Design and Prototyping program on November 13 at Space Center Houston. He presented a prototype trash compactor for use on the International Space Station, which was well received by NASA officials, fellow HUNCH students, teachers, and visitors. Everett said the event was both informative and fun, and he looks forward to the next competition phase in February 2026. NASA HUNCH (High Schools United with NASA to Create Hardware) is a nationally recognized workforce development program with a 23-year legacy of preparing the next generation of innovators and leaders.



Ball High Culinary Students Shine at “The Empty Bowl” Event

Ball High School Dual Credit Culinary Arts students showed off their skills at The Empty Bowl Event on Saturday, October 18, 2025!

Four students from the Culinary Arts Program at Galveston College were selected to serve up their delicious Chicken Tortilla Soup at one of eight food stations during the charity event. Their homemade soup was a big hit and stood out among dishes from several well-known Galveston restaurants.

The CTE Culinary Arts Program gives students the chance to explore careers in the food and hospitality industry while gaining real-world experience in planning, cooking, and serving. Events like this give students a great opportunity to share their talents with the community – and have some fun doing it!



We appreciate Gulf Copper's efforts in providing our senior welding students with a comprehensive facility tour and a glimpse into the bright future that awaits them in their chosen careers.

Exciting News from Future Business Leaders of America

- FBLA members joined the “Adopt-a-Beach Clean Up,” partnering with the Clean Galveston Coalition to help beautify our coastline.
- FBLA participated in the “Light Up the Night” event at Ball High, spreading awareness and showcasing the impact of their organization.
- FBLA members designed and featured a decorated float in this year’s Homecoming Parade.

