Proclamation

WHEREAS , February 2026, has been designated National Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month to honor students who have chosen to pursue career and technical education as a means of acquiring real-world skills to compete in the workforce; and

WHEREAS, profound economic and technical changes in Orange Unified School District are rapidly reflected in the structure and nature of work, thereby placing new and additional responsibilities on our educational system; and

WHEREAS, CTE prepares students for high-wage and high-demand careers by offering integrated programs of study that link secondary and postsecondary education and lead to the attainment of industry-recognized credentials that align to Orange Unified School District's regional workforce; and

WHEREAS, CTE provides students with career exploration opportunities, which enables them to make informed and beneficial decisions about their academic coursework and pursue established programs of study and career pathways; and

WHEREAS, CTE programs provide students with opportunities to gain invaluable hands-on experience through internships, apprenticeships, and other work-based learning experiences that are embedded in CTE programs in Orange Unified School District; and

WHEREAS, OC Pathways collaborates with Career Counseling Coordinators in Orange Unified School District to focus on ways to further the educational, personal and social growth of students in Orange Unified School District; and

WHEREAS, Career Counseling Coordinators, administrators, school counselors, and CTE teachers help students explore their potential and set realistic goals for themselves; and

WHEREAS, OC Pathways supports Orange Unified School District by identifying and utilizing community resources that can enhance and complement comprehensive CTE programs in Orange Unified School District to help students become productive members of society; and

WHEREAS, Career and Technical Education is offering a path to success in the 21st century economy while helping to address the urgent need for skilled labor in high-demand industries, thus enabling numerous Orange Unified School District students to secure gainful employment and lead productive, fulfilling lives;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that Orange Unified School District hereby recognizes February as

"CTE Month"

and extends sincere best wishes to all the talented young students who have chosen Career and Technical Education as a way to achieve their long-term professional goals.

Dated this 22th day of February 2026

Sara Pelly, Board Clerk