College & Career Readiness



MDUSD Career Pathways' Work Based Learning Impact Report

2025-2026

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THANK YOU!

To all of our amazing partners for all of the contributions! We look forward to our continued collaboration as we work to prepare all MDUSD students for College & Career!

- Academy of Art
- Advanced Mobility
- AgLantis Sustainable Farm
- Ambrose Recreation & Park District
- American Medical Response
- Army / Army Reserve
- Association of Operating Room Nurses
- Baskin-Robbins - Oak Grove Location
- Bike Concord
- Bishop Wisecarver
- Boilermakers Local 549
- Bricklayers BAC Local 3
- Cal Maritime / CSU Maritime Academy
- Calitho
- California Conservation Corps
- Carpenters-Local-152-NorCalCarpentersUnion
- CCC CTE Program
- CCC Fire Protection District
- CCC Workforce Development Board
- City of Concord
- Coast Guard
- Community Youth Center
- Concord Child Care Center
- Concord Historical Society
- Concord Parks and Recreation
- Concord Police Department
- Concord Rotary Club
- Construction Inspectors Apprenticeship
- Contra Costa College
- Contra Costa County Fire Protection District
- Contra Costa County Health - Health Career Pathways
- Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff
- Contra Costa County Water District
- Contra Costa Medical Career College
- Contra Costa County Workforce Development Board
- Contra Costa County Office of Education
- Costco Wholesale - Concord Location
- CSU East Bay Hospitality & Tourism Program
- Diablo Valley College
- Dogs for Diabetics
- Donor Network West
- DVC Dental Assisting Program
- East Bay CPR
- Earn & Learn
- EBMUD
- ENGEO
- Future Build Program
- Greater Concord Chamber
- of Commerce
- Growing Healthy Kids
- Gurnick Academy
- Habitat for Humanity
- Heat & Frost Insulators Local 16 / JATC
- Holding Hands Montessori Preschool
- IBEW Local 302 – Electricians
- Iron Workers Local 378
- IUEC Local 8 / NEIEP
- Job Corps (Treasure Island)
- John Muir Health
- Joybound People & Pets
- Junior Achievement of Northern CA
- Junior Giants - Concord
- Kaiser Permanente - KP Launch
- Kaiser Permanente School of Allied Health Sciences
- La Clinica De La Raza
- Land Surveyors Apprenticeship Local 34 Pile Drivers
- Laney College
- LiUNA – Laborers' Training & Retraining Trust Fund
- Los Medanos College
- Marines / Marine Corps
- Martinez Adult Education
- MDUSD Maintenance and Operations
- MDUSD IT
- MDUSD Ed Services
- MDUSD Expanded Learning
- MDUSD Student Services
- Merritt College
- Monument Crisis Center
- Monument Impact
- MTS Academy - Trucking
- Mt. Diablo Adult Education
- National Guard / CA National Guard
- US Navy
- NorCal Tile Industry
- OhReilly Productions
- On-Site Health and Safety
- Operating Engineers Local 3
- Pacific Coast Farmers Market
- Pacific States Aviation (PSA)
- Parkside Joyful Kids Academy
- Patelco Credit Union
- Paul Mitchell The School – East Bay
- PG&E Power Pathway
- Pile Drivers Local 34
- Pittsburg Adult Education
- Plumbers Local 152 / 159
- Plumbers/Steamfitters Local 342
- Red Dog Graphics
- Roof & Realm
- Salesforce
- San Jose Barracuda
- Save Mt. Diablo
- Senior Helpers of the East Bay
- SF Moma
- Sheet Metal Workers Local 104 / Bay Area Industry Training Fund
- Soares Chiropractic
- Spaulding Marine Center: Boatworks 101
- Sprinkler Fitters Local 483
- State Farm
- Stay Pleasant Hill
- Sunvalley Shopping Center
- Sutter Home and Health
- Technical Engineers Apprenticeship
- The Cobra Experience
- Tiny Splendor
- Tradeswomen, Inc.
- Travis Credit Union
- Twin Oaks Real Estate
- Unitek College
- Universal Technical Institute
- University of Silicon Valley
- Untitldmedia
- Urban Barber College
- Visit Concord
- Visit Walnut Creek
- Wyotech

Message from our Director

On behalf of Mt. Diablo Unified School District, I am proud to share MDUSD's 2025-2026 Work Based Learning Impact Report, celebrating the transformative work-based learning experiences made possible through the commitment of our industry and community partners. Through this commitment, MDUSD students participated in **232 work-based learning experiences, serving 8181 MDUSD students.** MDUSD students also earned **1051** indutsry-based experiences.

Over the past year, MDUSD students stepped beyond the classroom and into real workplaces, gaining hands-on exposure to careers in different industries, and building the skills and confidence that will carry them into their futures. None of this would be possible without the businesses, organizations, and community members who opened their doors, mentored our young people, and invested their time in our future workforce.

Work-based learning is more than a program — it is a bridge between what students learn in school and what they need to succeed beyond it. Through work-based learning experiences, MDUSD students discover pathways they may never have considered, developed transferrable skills like communication and problem-solving, and saw firsthand what it means to work within a professional environment.

This report reflects the collective impact of true partnership between our schools and our community. Together, we are building a stronger, more prepared workforce and a brighter future for the young people of MDUSD.



All students will receive a high-quality education in a safe and welcoming environment with equitable high expectations, access to technology, and instruction in the California State Standards that **prepare them for college and career.**

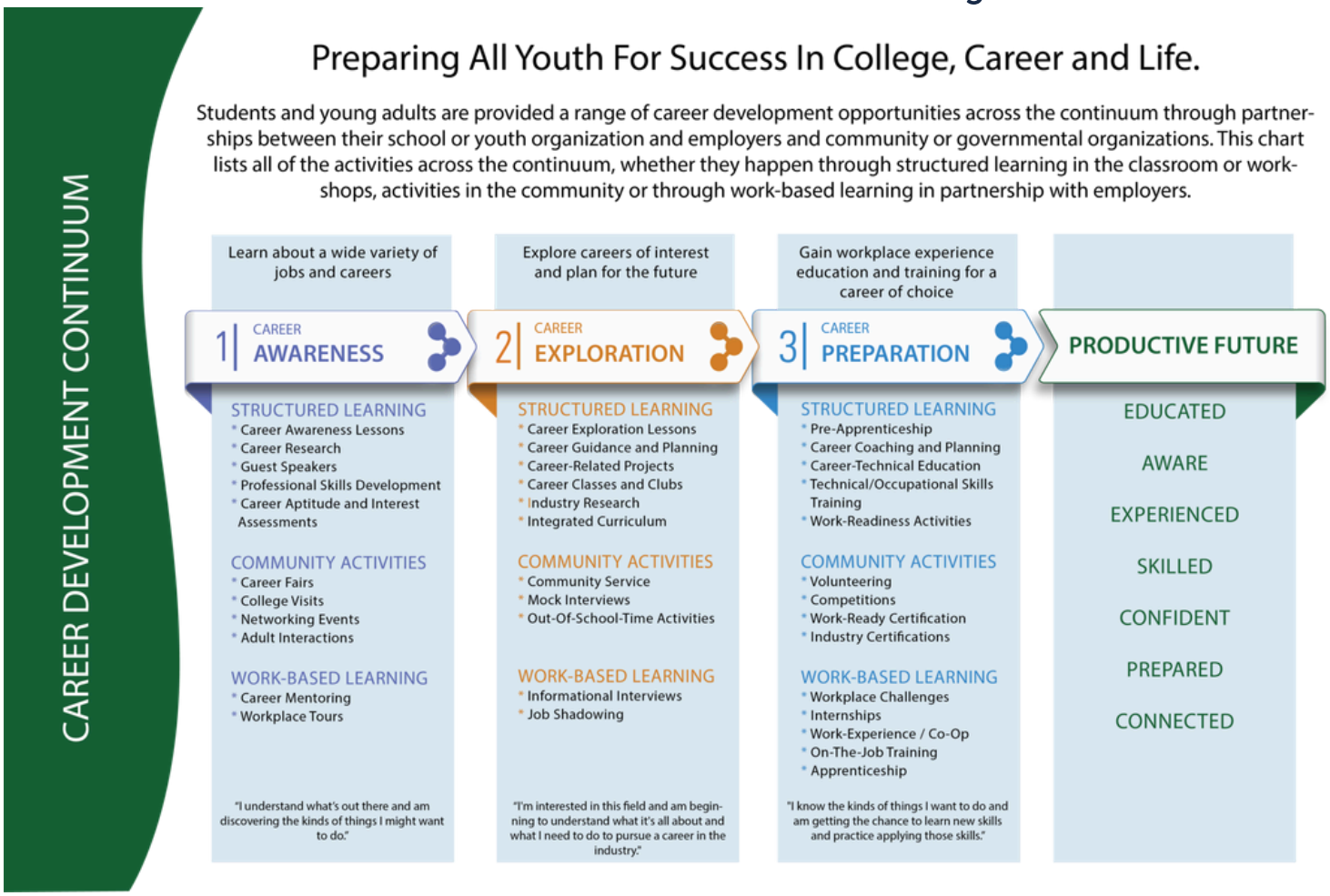
MDUSD 2025-2026 LCAP Goal #1



Dr. Heather Fontanilla

Director, College & Career Readiness

Executive Summary

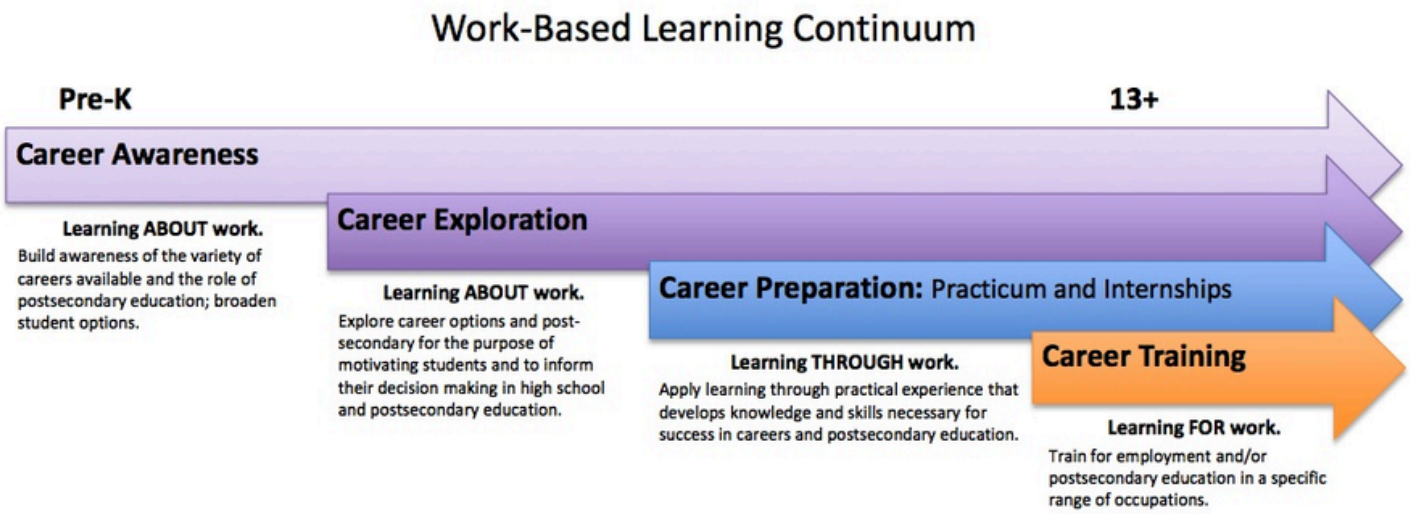


Pathways from all five of the comprehensive high schools represent eight different industry sectors. These include Arts, Media & Entertainment; Health Science & Medical Technology; Hospitality, Tourism, & Recreation; Engineering & Architecture; Manufacturing; Building & Construction Trades; Education; Child Development & Family Services; Transportation; and Information & Communication. Across the different career pathways, students receive rigorous and relevant curricula aligned with California's CTE Model Standards, California's Standards for Career Readiness, California Common Core standards in English Language Arts & Math, and current industry standards. Students also participate in meaningful work-based learning experiences designed to bridge academic and career skills, including effective communication, community collaboration, complex thinking, and self-directed learning.

In developing these meaningful work-based learning experiences for MDUSD students, MDUSD's Career Technical Education (CTE) teachers and the College & Career Readiness department strive to connect students to hands-on learning experiences that bring real-world connections to support the CTE classroom curriculum. Through these experiences, MDUSD also works to build a strong support network of business partnerships. These opportunities not only help prepare students for a career, but they also provide our industry partners with the opportunity to guide, mold, and mentor the workforce of the future.

MDUSD is proud to share that in 2025-2026, it was able to support 8,181 students in 232 different work-based learning experiences. The following pages provide an overview of the 2025-2026 work-based learning experiences and opportunities.

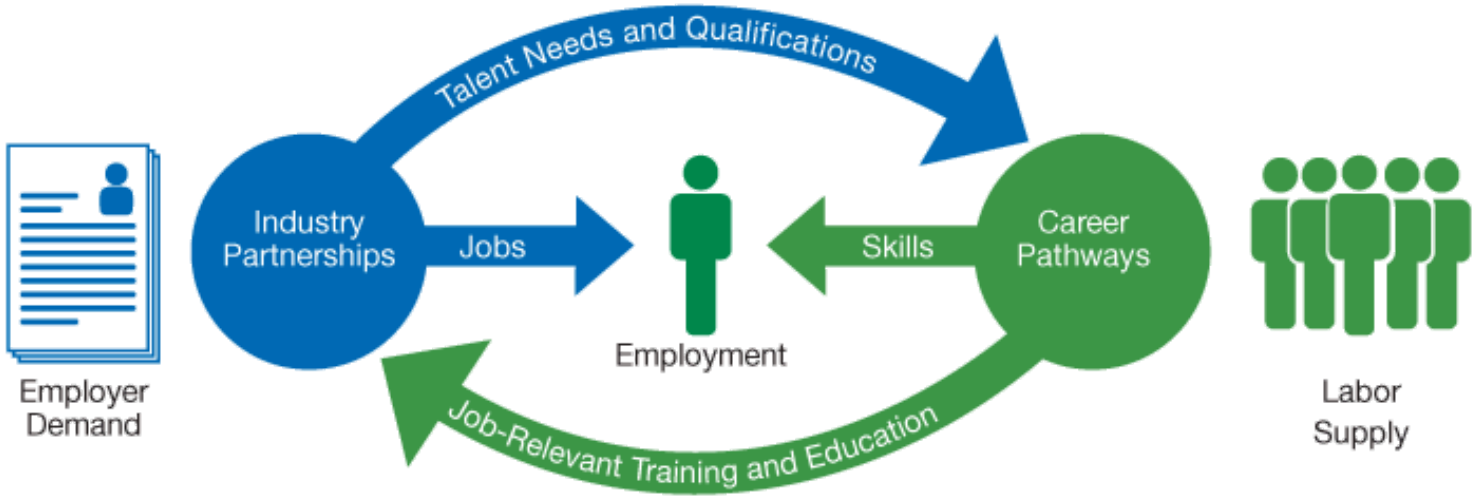
Work Based Learning Experiences



Industry-wide work-based learning experiences in MDUSD fall under the Career Exploration and Career Preparation areas of the Work-Based Learning Continuum. These collaborative experiences bring together students from different schools and pathways within the same industry sector.

Examples include the annual Career Technical Education Fair, the Allied Health Fair, and Parent Trades Night. In some cases, students and industry partners co-design and implement the events. These district-wide efforts expand access to meaningful career exposure and preparation, benefiting both students and industry partners.

Connecting classroom learning with real-world experiences, industry partnerships, and career pathways helps students build essential employability skills, such as communication, teamwork, and problem-solving, and prepare them for success in both postsecondary education and the workforce.



What is a Career Pathway?

A career pathway is a program of study that involves a multiyear, cohesive sequence of courses. It integrates core academic knowledge with technical and occupational knowledge to provide students with a pathway to postsecondary education and careers.

MDUSD Career Pathway Sectors



Information Computer Technology



Hospitality, Tourism & Recreation



Health Science & Medical Technology



Engineering & Architecture Manufacturing



Arts, Media, & Entertainment



Engineering & Architecture Manufacturing



Transportation



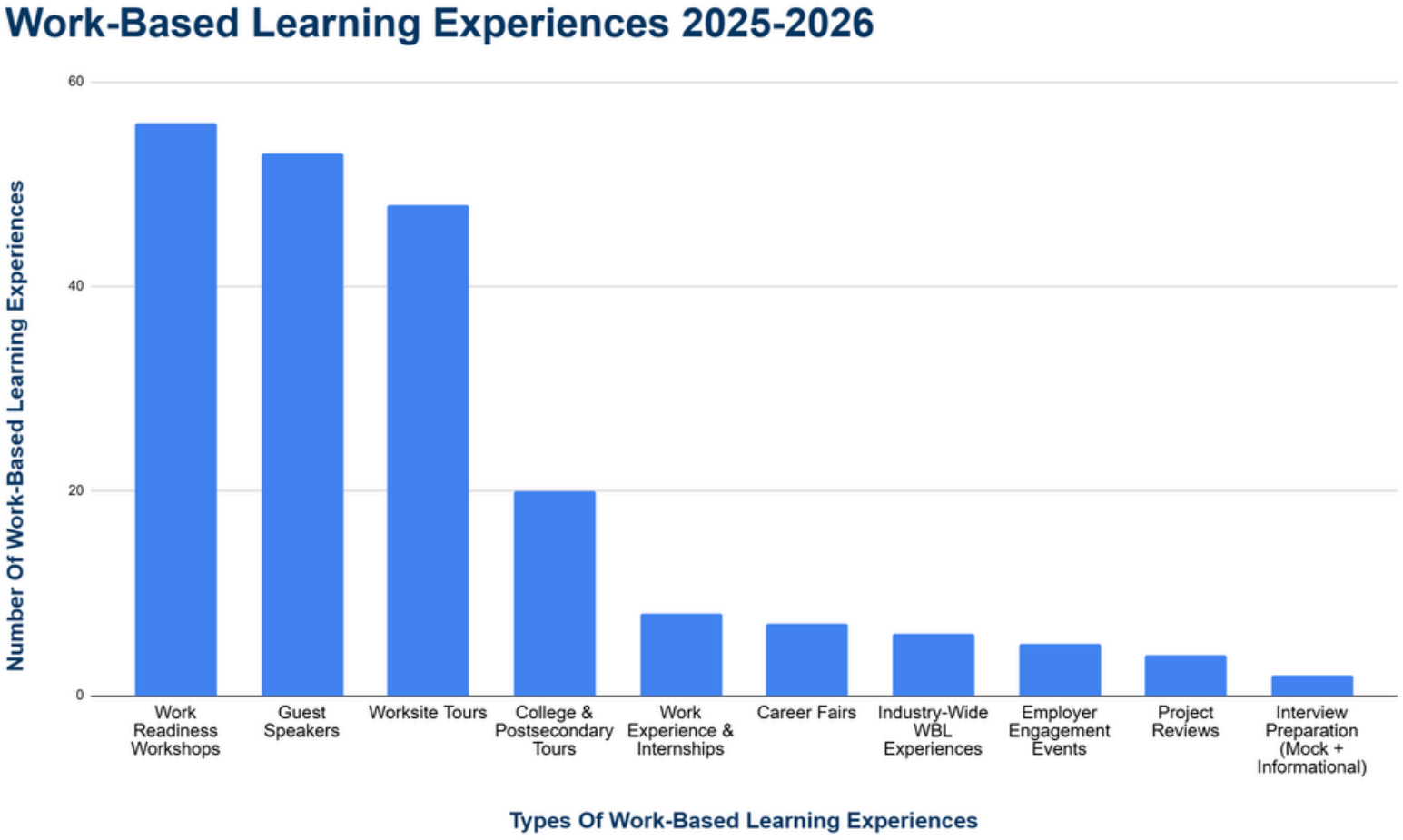
Building & Construction Trades

MDUSD Pathways has multiple courses articulated with Diablo Valley College, Los Medanos College, and Contra Costa Community College. These agreements allow students to earn early college credits. MDUSD is also expanding dual enrollment classes aligned to its pathways, providing more opportunities for students to earn early college credits. Some of these courses can also be used to help a student earn a certificate aligned to their pathway.

2025-2026

232

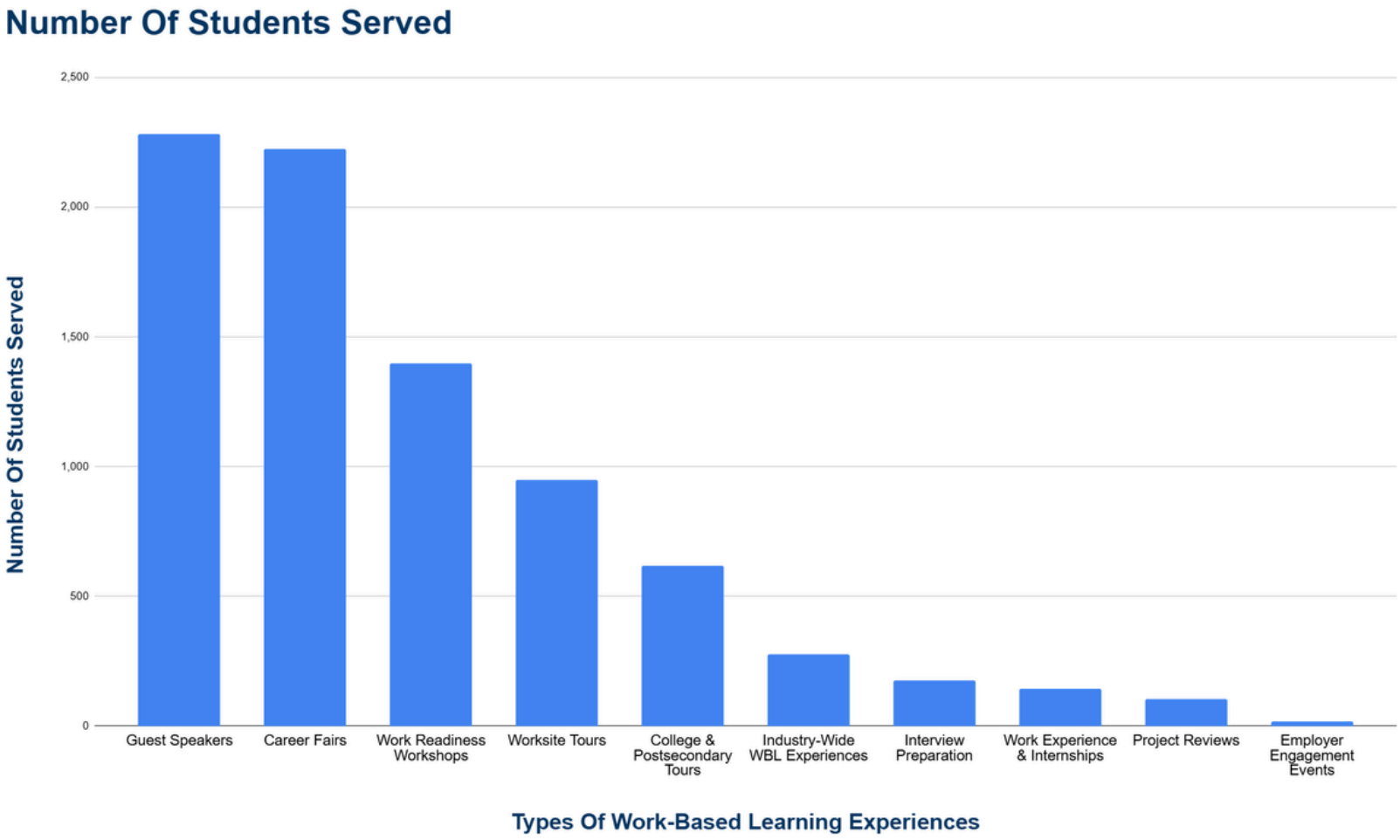
Work-Based Learning Experiences



2025-2026

8,181

Students Served by Work-Based Learning Experiences



Industry-Based Certifications



https://www.coursera.org/learn/covid-19-contact-tracing

Industry Certifications Earned

An industry-based certificate is a credential students earn to show proficiency in a particular area or skill. These types of certificates make a student more marketable to employers, increase their earning potential, and demonstrate a commitment to professional development. For high school students to earn industry-based certificates shows a level of competence that will help them enter an entry-level position.

Students in Building Trades, Health, International Hospitality and Tourism, and Design, Visual, & Media Arts Pathways have the opportunity to earn industry-recognized certifications while still in high school. For the 2025-2026 School Year, MDUSD Career Pathways students earned **1,051** industry-recognized certifications.

www.osha.gov/bloodborne-pathogens

STOP THE BLEED

www.stopthebleed.org/training/

FEMA

fema.gov

www.fcc.gov

Adobe Certified Professional
ADOBE PREMIERE PRO

www.adobe.com

ServSafe
National Restaurant Association

www.servsafe.com/ServSafe-Food-Handler/Get-Certified

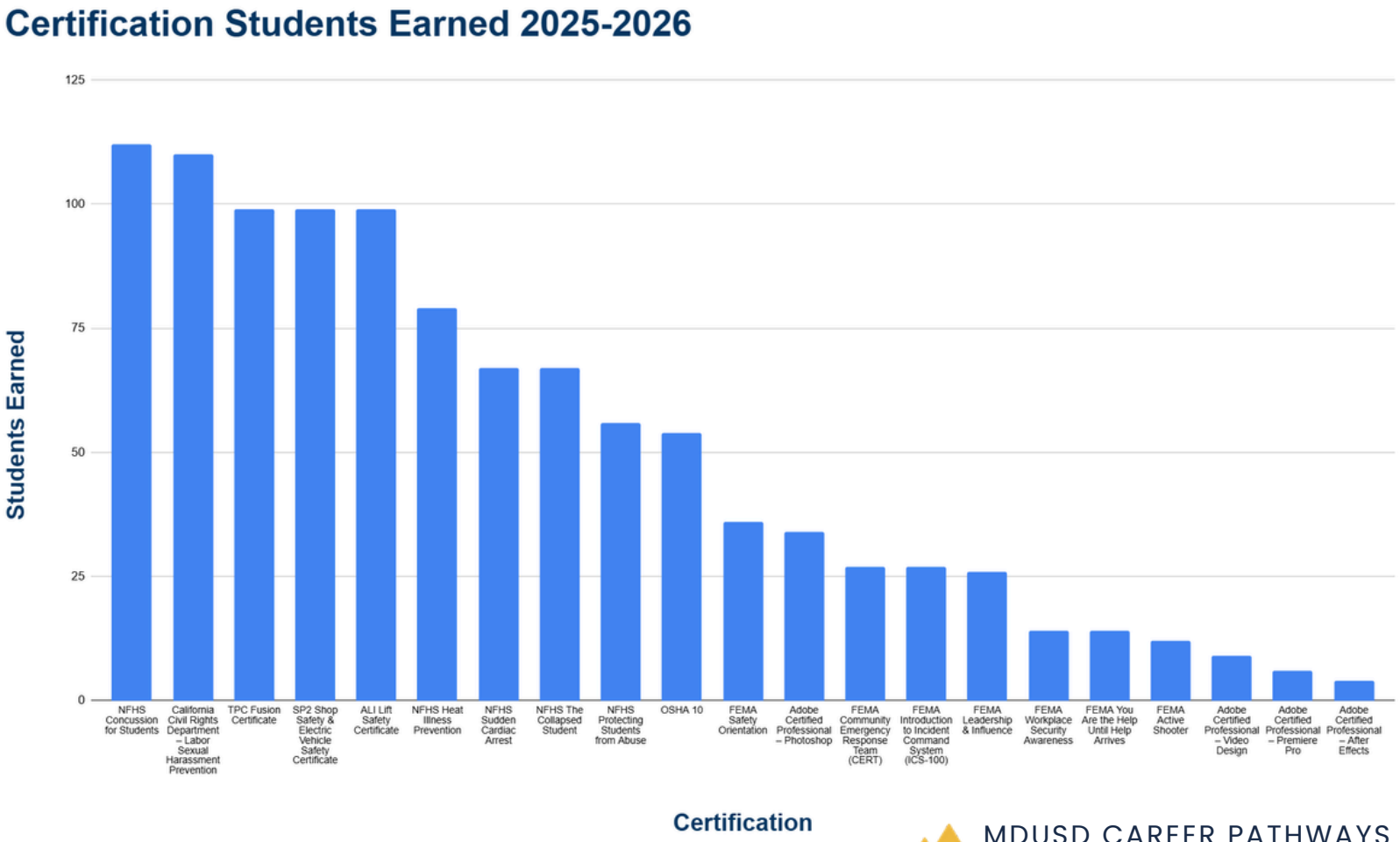




2025-2026

1,051

Industry Recognized Certifications Earned by Pathway Students



Different Types of Work-Based Learning Experiences

MDUSD Career Pathways offers a range of Work-Based Learning opportunities designed to connect students with real-world careers, industry professionals, and postsecondary pathways. These experiences generally fall into three categories:

Industry-Wide WBL Experiences
These are larger events and programs developed in partnership with industry professionals and community organizations. Often serving students from multiple schools and pathways, the experiences provide broad exposure to career fields, industry trends, and postsecondary opportunities. Examples include Manufacturing Day, Allied Health Fair, and Serving Success Hospitality Project.

Key Features:
Involve cross-school participation
Led in partnership with industry professionals
Provide large-scale exposure to career fields
Include networking opportunities and industry engagement
Connect students to certifications, apprenticeships, and postsecondary pathways

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Teacher-Driven WBL Experiences
These experiences are initiated and organized by classroom teachers and pathway instructors to enhance classroom learning. Activities may include Field Trips, Workplace Tours, Guest Speakers, Mock Interviews, and Project Reviews.

Key Features:
Organized by classroom teachers
Tailored to specific pathways and course content
Include site visits, guest speakers, and project-based activities
Provide real-world application of classroom learning
Responsive to local industry and community opportunities

District-Wide WBL Experiences
District-wide WBL Experiences are coordinated by the MDUSD College & Career team and often span multiple schools and career sectors. Designed to build career readiness and professional skills, these events help students explore career options, connect with professionals, and develop confidence in professional settings. Examples include Career Education Fair, Building Trades Parents Night, 8th Grade CTE Fair, Campus to Commerce, and First Friday Coffee Mixers.

Key Features:
- Planned and led by the district Career Pathways team
- Serve students across multiple schools and pathways
- Emphasize career readiness and professional skill development
- Include networking, leadership, and career exploration opportunities
- Complement both classroom and industry-based learning

Industry-Wide WBL Experiences







Industry-Wide WBL Experiences

Manufacturing Day



On October 30, 2025, **45 students** from Mt. Diablo, Concord, and Ygnacio Valley high schools took part in Manufacturing Day, an immersive experience designed to connect youth with real-world opportunities in the manufacturing and building trades. Thanks to a regional collaboration with the **City of Concord, Contra Costa Community College District, Contra Costa Office of Education, Contra Costa Economic Partnership, and Earn & Learn**, students visited the **Bollman Water Treatment Plant, Marathon Petroleum, and an active Lennar Homes construction site**. These industry tours provided firsthand insight into essential sectors such as water treatment, energy production, and construction. Students then continued their experience at Diablo Valley College, where they engaged in hands-on learning within the Robotics, Electrical Engineering, and Construction labs.



“This event helped students connect the classroom to career,” said Anna Ramos, MDUSD’s Manager of Youth Development & Support Services. “It exposed them to the practical skills and possibilities within our local industries.”



Manufacturing Day reflects MDUSD’s commitment to high-quality career technical education (CTE) and equitable work-based learning. By aligning with industry partners and exposing students to viable career pathways, the district continues to empower students to imagine and pursue their future success.

California Design Build Competition

In May 2026, the Construction Pathway team from Concord High School proudly represented MDUSD in the Northern California Design Build Competition, hosted by the Construction Industry Education Foundation (CIEF). This prestigious event challenges teams to design, plan, and build a 96 sq ft structure over two intensive days. Student work is judged by industry professionals who look at design quality, code compliance, and safety. **Concord’s students received specialized mentorship and sponsorship from the Women in Trades**, which equipped them with practical skills, professional guidance, and confidence as they prepared for the competition. Their participation not only highlighted student creativity and craftsmanship, but also underscored the impact of industry support in fostering equitable pathways into the construction trades. One Concord High School student commented that “the Design Build Competition gave me a sense of what working in construction is all about. From drafting our plans to actually building something with my team, it was intense – but really rewarding. Having mentors from Women in Trades was huge. They gave us support, taught us how to work smart, and showed us what it takes to succeed in the field.”





Industry Wide WBL Experiences

Allied Health Fair

On March 19th, in partnership with **Mt. Diablo Adult Education** (MDAE), **110 BioMedical and Patient Care pathway students** from Ygnacio Valley, College Park, and Mt Diablo high schools participated in the 4th Annual Allied Health Career Fair at Loma Vista Adult Education in Concord. The goal of this industry-wide WBL experience was to expose students to careers within the allied health field and to introduce them to the programs offered through MDUSD Adult Ed, all of which lead to a certificate that can lead to a career within the health care field. Over the course of the event, students rotated through six different rooms, including an Exhibit Hall where they participated in interactive, hands-on workshops, conducted mini informational interviews, practiced their networking skills, and listened to guest speakers. Current MDAE dental assistant, medical assistant, and EMT students and their instructors also opened their labs to the visiting high school students, showcasing some of the skills and equipment they routinely use. Students gained valuable information, resources, and insight regarding non-traditional health-related career opportunities and post-secondary pathways they didn't know existed or hadn't previously considered.







Serving Success Hospitality Project

Students from Mt. Diablo High School participated in a series of work readiness workshops and industry-connected experiences designed to introduce them to careers in hospitality, culinary arts, and tourism. A key highlight of the project was a guest speaker session with **Alex Lopez from Visit Walnut Creek**, who shared insights into the tourism industry, career pathways, and the skills needed to succeed in hospitality-related fields.

Field trips included visits to **California State University, East Bay, Laney College, and Diablo Valley College**, where students explored hospitality and culinary arts programs, toured campuses, and interacted with faculty and industry professionals. These experiences helped students develop a clearer understanding of the diverse career pathways available within the hospitality industry.

Students also engaged in intentional field trip preparation, including guided question development and structured learning activities aligned to each visit. Students were encouraged to actively connect classroom content with real-world settings.





Teacher-Driven WBL Experiences







Teacher-Driven WBL Experiences

Field Trips and Workplace Tours

Field trips and workplace tours are career awareness activities during which students visit a workplace, learn about a business or industry, meet professionals, ask questions, and observe real-world work environments. These experiences help students connect classroom learning to potential careers while building awareness of postsecondary opportunities. Most tours last between one and five hours, depending on the location and activities involved.



In 2025–2026, MDUSD Career Pathway students participated in **43 workplace tours and field trip experiences**, making workplace tours one of the most frequently utilized forms of Work-Based Learning across the district. Pathways that participated included Arts, Media & Entertainment, Culinary & Hospitality, Engineering, Health Care, Transportation/Automotive, Education, and Consumer Services, with **approximately 846 students participating**.



Some of the 2025–2026 workplace tours and field trip experiences took place at **Contra Costa College, Los Medanos College, Cal State East Bay, Gurnick Academy, REACH Air Medical Services, Stat Medical Urgent Care, Diablo Valley College Anatomy Lab, San Francisco Center for the Book, San Jose Barracuda, Concord Auto Service, Costco, Solano Way Auto Repair, Calitho and a variety of local industry and community partners throughout Contra Costa County.** These experiences provided students with valuable exposure to career pathways, industry expectations, postsecondary education options, and hands-on learning opportunities beyond the classroom.



Guest Speakers

Industry partner guest speakers provide students with direct access to professionals working in a variety of career fields. By sharing their education, career journeys, and day-to-day experiences, guest speakers help students connect classroom learning to real-world careers while gaining valuable insight into industry expectations and opportunities.

In 2025–2026, MDUSD Career Pathway **students participated in 31 guest speaker presentations, reaching approximately 1,560 students across multiple career sectors.** Guest speakers represented a wide range of industries, including healthcare, financial services, hospitality, business, and skilled trades. Through classroom presentations, career panels, and industry discussions, students had the opportunity to learn about career pathways, workplace skills, industry trends, and postsecondary options directly from professionals in the field. These experiences helped students build career awareness, ask questions, and gain a better understanding of the many opportunities available to them after high school.

Teacher-Driven WBL Experiences

San Jose Barracudas Hockey Game





It has become a yearly tradition for Art and Digital Media Pathway students from Concord, College Park., Mt. Diablo and Northgate High Schools to head to a San Jose **Barracuda hockey game** for a hands-on sports photography experience that has become a tradition students really look forward to.
In the fast-paced environment of a live game, students practice capturing action shots, adjust camera settings on the fly, and try out techniques used by professional sports photographers.

The energy of the game pushes them to think quickly, adapt to changing moments, and work on getting sharp, well-timed images in real time. It's a step up from the classroom, giving students a chance to apply what they've learned in a real-world setting tied directly to photography, digital media, and storytelling.

More than **100 students** take part each year, walking away with stronger technical skills and a better understanding of careers in sports media, photography, and creative industries.

Perioperative Day

On November 14 2025, **47 students** from College Park High School attended **John Muir Medical's Perioperative Open House** hosted at the Walnut Creek campus. This event offered a behind-the-scenes look at surgical tools, technologies, and processes, including hands-on experiences for MDUSD students. Students also heard from medical professionals about their path into their profession as well as skills needed to be successful. Through this experience, students learned about the different careers involved in operative care.

"After engaging with the professionals in various healthcare fields, I am now considering a career in the NICU. The chance to interact with people who have specialized in different areas of healthcare has broadened my perspective and inspired me to explore new possibilities. This experience has truly encouraged me to rethink my goals and consider a path I hadn't previously considered."
-MDUSD Student





District-Wide WBL Experiences







District-Wide WBL Experiences





Career Technical Education Fair

On October 15, 2025, Concord High School and MDUSD Career Pathways hosted the 8th Annual Career Education Fair, drawing students from across the Mt. Diablo Unified School District. **Approximately 1,000 students** from all five comprehensive high schools and two alternative Education sites participated, making it one of the largest career-focused events of the year.

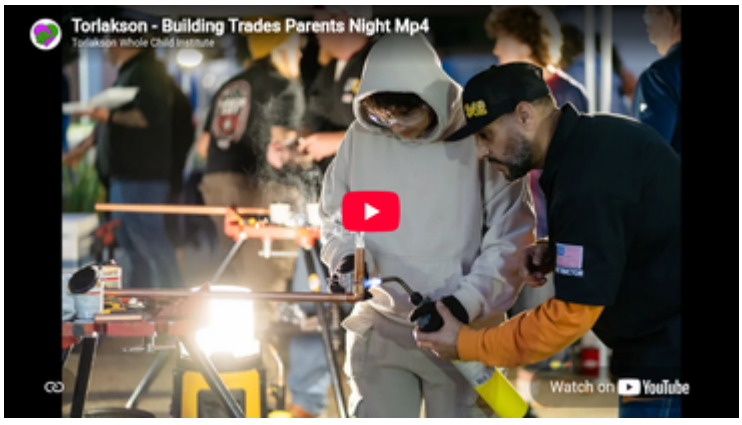
The fair connected students with nearly 50 career and training organizations, ranging from trade unions and apprenticeship programs to community colleges, public service agencies, and the military. With hands-on exhibits and expert guidance, students explored meaningful pathways in healthcare, digital arts, engineering, culinary arts, hospitality, and more. From trying on firefighting gear to operating heavy machinery, the fair gave students a real taste of their future possibilities.

MDUSD's Director of College and Career Readiness, Heather Fontanilla, emphasized that skilled trades offer not just jobs, but lifelong, well-paying careers. Events like this reaffirm MDUSD's commitment to preparing students for success in college, career, and life by making career education a key part of the high school experience.

Building Trades Parents Night

On November 5, 2025, MDUSD hosted its first Building Trades Parents Night at Concord High School, bringing together **more than 500 students, parents, and guardians** to learn about careers in the skilled trades. Through a partnership with the **Torlakson Whole Child Institute and Contra Costa Building & Construction Trades Council, and local trades unions**, attendees explored apprenticeship programs, training opportunities, wages, benefits, and career pathways available in the construction trades.
The evening featured remarks from MDUSD Superintendent Dr. Adam Clark, Mae Cendaña Torlakson, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond, Congressman Mark DeSaulnier, California Building and Construction Trades Council President Chris Hannan, and a College Park High School graduate currently participating in a plumbing apprenticeship program. The event also included hands-on demonstrations and informational booths, giving students and families a closer look at opportunities available in the skilled trades.





District-Wide WBL Experiences

8th Grade CTE Fair

On January 8, 2026, MDUSD hosted its 3rd Annual 8th Grade Career Technical Education (CTE) Fair at Riverview Middle School, **welcoming more than 750 students from middle schools across the district**. The fair introduced students to high school career pathways and future career opportunities through hands-on exhibits, interactive demonstrations, and conversations with current high school students, educators, industry professionals, and postsecondary partners.

The event featured 11 MDUSD Career Pathway programs, 13 industry and education partners, and representatives from postsecondary institutions including **Diablo Valley College, Cal State East Bay, and MDUSD Adult Education**. Students explored pathways in engineering, healthcare, construction, automotive technology, culinary arts, digital media, animation, education, and JROTC while participating in activities such as welding, CPR demonstrations, and robotics.



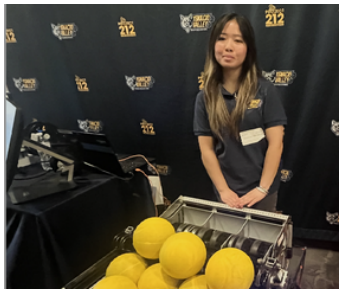



Campus To Commerce: Career Pathway Showcase

In partnership with the **Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce and John Muir Health,** MDUSD Career Pathways held its annual Campus to Commerce Career Pathways Showcase on April 30, 2026, at John Muir Health in Concord. Students from **Olympic High School and all five MDUSD comprehensive high schools** participated in the event, which provided an opportunity for students to showcase to the community their learning, share pathway projects, and connect with business and community partners.



Representing pathways in Arts, Media & Entertainment, Engineering, Patient Care, Education, Construction, Transportation, Culinary Arts, Biomedical Science, and Consumer Services, students displayed photos, equipment, and project samples while speaking with visitors about their experiences and career goals. The event also featured a student panel discussion with **Armando Soto**, a Patient Care Pathway student from Mt. Diablo High School; **Althea Vivar**, an Engineering student from Ygnacio Valley High School; and **Yuna Ko**, an Animation student from Northgate High School.



Armando shared how internships and hands-on healthcare experiences have strengthened his interest in the medical field. Althea discussed the impact of industry partners such as **Bishop-Wisecarver and Marathon Petroleum** in helping students see engineering in action and explore career possibilities. Yuna highlighted how the skills, technology, certifications, and real-world experience gained through the Animation Pathway contributed to her earning national recognition at the 2026 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, including a National Gold Medal and Best-in-Grade Award for her comic book, Daltokki ex Machina.



Superintendent Dr. Adam Clark highlighted the power of collaboration between education, industry, and workforce partners, noting that these partnerships help students develop the skills needed for future careers and **"show what is possible when schools, employers, and community organizations work together.**"

District-Wide WBL Experiences

Student Internships





In Summer 2025, MDUSD placed **72 interns** in valuable career experiences. Students walked away with stronger career skills, greater confidence in professional settings, and early college credit for completing **120 hours of on-the-job learning**. From hospitals and classrooms to engineering offices and digital media studios, students experienced the diversity of today's workforce and built a foundation for their future careers.

The MDUSD Career Pathways Internship Program gives students the chance to apply their learning in real-world settings across a wide range of industries, including **Health, Education, Engineering, Construction, Agriculture, Digital Media, Visual & Performing Arts, and Transportation.** Students from Mt. Diablo High School, Ygnacio Valley High School, Olympic High School, and Concord High School participated in the program this year.

Before starting their workshops, students took part in work-readiness workshops that focused on professionalism, time management, and stress management. They also set personal goals to guide their growth and provide direction for their host mentors. During the internship, MDUSD Work-Based Learning Coordinators checked in regularly with both the student and host to ensure the placement was positive and meaningful. By the end of the summer, interns built a portfolio that included an updated resume and a letter of reference from their host, and they also earned college credit through Diablo Valley College's Work Experience course.

Industry partners represented a diverse mix of government agencies, nonprofits, private employers, and MDUSD departments. Hosts included **Monument Crisis Center, John Muir Health, La Clínica de la Raza, MDUSD Maintenance and Operations, Junior Achievement, the Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce, City of Concord, AgLantis, Fresh Approach, BART,** and several small businesses and engineering firms.







Dual Enrollment & CCGI

Dual Enrollment





Dual enrollment allows high school students to take college-level courses while still in high school, earning **both high school and college credit** for those courses. These courses are through a partnership between MDUSD and Diablo Valley College (DVC) and are offered at Mt. Diablo High School, Ygnacio Valley High School, and Northgate High School. The classes are connected to the different pathways on those campuses, including health care, early childhood education, and engineering. Additionally, the classes are intended to meet either a certificate requirement or a degree for transfer requirement.

The benefits of dual enrollment are numerous: students get a head start on their college education, potentially saving time/money. They have an opportunity to do a deeper dive into the career related courses required in post secondary. Dual enrollment also provides exposure to the rigor of college coursework and helps students transition more smoothly to higher education. Students earning a C or higher in a CSU/UC transferable class earn a GPA boost for that class – similar to an AP or honors class. Participating in this program demonstrates academic ambition, preparedness, and long-term goal setting.







California College Guidance Initiative (CCGI)

The 2024-2025 school year brought in an exciting partnership between Mt. Diablo Unified School District and CaliforniaColleges.edu, developed out of the California College Guidance Initiative (CCGI). CCGI works to ensure that all 6th-12th-grade students in California have access to a systemic baseline of guidance and support, as they prepare and plan for post-secondary education and training. As the State of California's official college and career planning platform, CaliforniaColleges.edu empowers students by providing them with a one-stop shop for all the tools they need to set goals for life after high school and make plans to achieve them.

When signed in, students can:

- Complete grade-level appropriate activities designed to guide them toward a college and career plan that matches their goals and interests.
- Find and favorite careers, colleges, and majors.
- Plan high school courses and track progress toward completion of "A-G" course requirements, as well as CSU and UC eligibility.
- Apply to colleges and track submissions.
- Launch the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act Application (CADAA).
- Store resumes, college application essays, and other important documents.

BUSINESS & EDUCATORS SHADOWING FOR TOMORROW (BEST) DAY

Business & Educators Shadowing For Tomorrow (BEST) Day is a dynamic professional development initiative designed to bridge the gap between education and industry. 25 Career Technical Education (CTE) teachers and Work-Based Learning (WBL) Coordinators from the District participated in immersive industry shadowing experiences, assuming the role of learners as they visited **10 local businesses**, **organizations, and public agencies.** This hands-on experience provided educators with valuable insights into current workplace practices and expectations. By engaging directly with industry professionals, participants gained a deeper understanding of the skills and knowledge their students will need to succeed in the workforce. These interactions also offered a unique opportunity to explore what employers are seeking in job candidates, ultimately enhancing the alignment between classroom instruction and career readiness. Following the shadowing experiences, educators participated in collaborative professional development sessions focused on enhancing classroom-based work-based learning. These discussions centered on actionable strategies to better align instruction with real-world expectations, equipping students with the skills and mindset needed for success beyond high school.

Thank you to our 2026 BEST Day Hosts

- **CalTrans**
- **CTWI (Local 342, Future Build)**
- **DVC (AME Teachers)**
- **Eagle Peak Montessori**
- **Joybound People & Pets**
- **Loaves and Fishes**
- **Mt. Diablo Resource Recovery**
- **Patelco**
- **Rocketship Futuro-Academy**
- **Your Small World & Bay City News**







Become an Industry Partner







01. Learn about our Programs

Each comprehensive high school offers different career pathways to its students. If you are interested in learning about a specific one, visit the website: https://mdusd-ca.schoolloop.com/careerpathways

02. Get Involved

Sign up to receive information about our Business Partnership Group - Mt. Diablo Business Education Alliance (MDBEA) and attend a quarterly meeting

03. Commit and Participate

Connect to a career pathway sector and volunteer to participate in or host a work-based learning experience!

Meet Our Team!



Meet Our Team (left to right):

- **Jorge Salinas-Tognetti** – Career Pathways Counselor salinastognettij@mdusd.org
- **Isaiah Harper** – Work-Based Learning Coordinator harperi@mdusd.org
- **Demetra Hufford** – Work-Based Learning Coordinator huffordd@mdusd.org
- **Dr. Heather Fontanilla** – Director, College & Career Readiness fontanillah@mdusd.org
- **Amanda Witczak** – Career Pathways Counselor witczaka@mdusd.org
- **Anna Ramos** – Manager, Youth Development & Support Services ramosai@mdusd.org
- **Daisy Romero-Briceno** – Work-Based Learning Coordinator romerobricenod@mdusd.org
- **Alicia Navarrete** – College & Career Transition Specialist navarretea@mdusd.org
- **Susan Hartwig** – Administrator, College Now & Career Pathways/Linked Learning hartwigs@mdusd.org (Not Pictured)

Career Pathways

Save the Dates

Mt. Diablo Business Education Alliance
2026-2027 Meetings

- **September 21, 2026,** 4:00 PM @ MDHS Serendipity
- **January/February, 2027,** 4:00 PM @ MDUSD Locations
  - **Industry Sector Meetings**
- **April 19, 2027,** 4:00 PM @ MDHS Serendipity
- **April 29, 2027,** 11:00 AM @ JMH, Concord
  - **Campus To Commerce Student Showcase**

(Locations Subject to Change)

Stay up to date by visiting our website:
https://www.mdusd.org/departments/educational-services/college-career
Follow us on Instagram:
@Pathways_MDUSD