June 2021 NEWSLETTER

The Santa Clara County Office of Education CTE Team is dedicated to providing important CTE and College and Career updates to our community through our monthly SCCOE CTE Team Newsletter. We look forward to building and improving communication with the goal of creating equitable access to high quality CTE pathways and College and Career transitions for all our students throughout Santa Clara County.

MESSAGE FROM THE CTE COORDINATOR

Celebrating CTE Successes for 2021

The SCCOE CTE Team wants to acknowledge all the incredible hard work, dedication, resiliency, and determination, you, our amazing educators and your wonderful students on all the great things you accomplished in an unprecedented year of challenges during COVID. We greatly appreciate all that you did and continue to do, and we sincerely hope that you will find time to soak in those successes while enjoying summer. We are highlighting just a few of the great work that you have done. Congratulations on a successful 2020-2021 CTE year!
CAREER FOCUS - REAL WORLD WORK BASED LEARNING EXPERIENCES

I hear and I forget. I see and I remember. I do and I understand.
-K'ung Fu-tse

Pathways to Success at Blue Ridge High School (James Ranch)

Alternative educational settings, including learning communities for incarcerated youth, have tremendous promise for life-altering content and applied learning methodologies. The SCCOE is proud to partner with the County of Santa Clara Probation Department, the Laborers’ International Union of North America (LiUNA!), Competitive Edge Energy Solutions (CEES-Advisors), and the Bay Area Community College Consortium Regional Director for the Energy, Construction and Utility sector.


Character and transferable life and work skills matter as much as technical training. With this in mind, the work readiness traits and skills acquired and strengthened through the culture-building part of the training will serve these Blue Ridge High School students as much as sweat welding copper, pouring a concrete sidewalk, or OSHA safety training. Equipped with both, and thanks to the dedication of the instructional and counseling team, these completers have the fuel and the rudder for the next stage of their life journey!
K12 PATHWAYS COORDINATOR CORNER

Celebrating All The Successes Across Our County

Great job Santa Clara Unified School District!

Santa Clara HS
Culinary Arts
Over 95% of the 165 students received the Food Handlers Certification
Students elected to serve as Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) Region 5 Secretary and State FCCLA President for 2021-22
3 students took 2nd place at State with a community Service Project in the National Programs in Action category

Wilcox HS
Fashion Design
Wilcox Sophomore, Sezen Musa won 1st place at the FCCLA State level competition for Repurpose and Redesign with her Music Sheet Gown! Viktoriya Bannikova was elected to FCCLA State Historian, Sezen Musa was elected as FCCLA Region 5 President and Halle Lu Granlund as Reporter

Wilcox HS
Business
FlexFactor Champions- For the second year in a row Wilcox won this competition. This competition, run by NextFlex, has the students focus on solving a particular problem they see in the world. They then have to come up with a tech solution that utilizes “flexible hybrid electronics” (Think electronic chips and sensors that can bend). They then have to come up with an accompanying business plan to support their product or service. Tavleen Kaur, Gayathri Srinivasan, Diane Shih (next year’s vice president of the student club-Wilcox Business Experience), and Alexandra Rumford were inspired by the Flint, MI situation. They designed an attachment that you would connect to your kitchen sink faucet that would measure all levels of toxins in the water. It would also filter out 80-90% of all the toxins.

Financial Advisor Competition- Normally a southern California competition, it was held virtually this year. Our team of Tiana Tran, Sohan Patra and Abhinav Reddy finished 3rd in the state. The students receive a case study 3 weeks prior to the competition. They act as a financial advisor for the family in
the case study. The competition provides them with mentors to help them along the way. The students develop a 10 minute presentation of their plan to help the family and pitch the plan to a group of financial advisors. Prior to this year, Wilcox had won the last 2 state championships in this event.

**DECA** - This competition directly connects our CTE pathway Financial Services. We had our best performance to date this year at the competition. This is a huge competition where many of the events we enter have 200-300 students enrolled. There are 50 different categories you can compete in. Most of the events consist of the students taking a test and then also participating in a role play. The test has 100 questions. The role play allows you to view a case study and then perform the strategy you develop with business leaders from the area. Those leaders score your performance. Last year we were extremely proud when 8 out of our 15 students from Wilcox finished in the top 10. This year 11 out of our 15 students achieved top 10 finishes. Samek Rangarajan (our current vice president and next year's president of the WBE) won the state championship in the Human Resources Management event. This is our first state championship we won in DECA. Allen Loomis (current president of the WBE), Tiana Tran, and Alexander Grindrod all qualified for the international finals. Samek had a top 10 score in both the role play and the test. Tiana, who participated in the Principles of Finance division had the 5th highest test score in the world. Alexander, who participated in the Virtual Business- Personal Finance division, finished 4th in the world.

**Diamond Challenge** - This is an entrepreneurial event where students must come up with an idea for a product and service and build a business plan around it. This is considered by many to be the top competition of its kind in the country. It is run by the University of Delaware. The all-freshman team of Aanya Gupta, Aadi Kale and Mark Vernik won the Western Regionals of the Diamond Challenge. Our team tied for 3rd and 4th place in the international event. Their business consisted of using a convex shaped layer of a glass like substance (think big magnifying glass) to increase the amount of light the typical solar panel could produce during the course of a day. They built a prototype of their device and tested it. The results consistently produced almost double the energy that a typical solar panel could produce.

**Personal Finance Challenge** - This event has the students review a case study, develop a solution, and present it to a professional group of financial advisors. You have 100 minutes to prepare your plan and presentation. **We had 2 teams qualify for the state tournament.**

Our club also prides itself in being able to give back to the community. Each year our incoming president chooses a project. This year our club worked with Pragnya, a group that helps children with autism by creating real world experiences for the neurodiverse community to acclimatize to the neurotypical community. Pragnya trained our students to support these experiences by “acculturating” to the neurodiverse community. After the training our students created a financial literacy curriculum specific for the needs of the Pragnya members.

Awesome Work Gilroy Unified School District!

Five Gilroy High School classes from Instructors Deanna
Erickson's Culinary Arts, wrapped up the FlexFactor program with outstanding Final Pitches. Student teams delivered their product ideas and business models to panelists including representatives from industry, nonprofit, and education sectors. Products ranged from Smart Pots and Automated Recycle Bins. The innovative concepts, business plans, and well-rehearsed presentations were impressive, and it was great to witness the future manufacturing innovation in each of these students.

Impressive Projects Silicon Valley Career Technical Education!

K12 Pathway Coordinator, Maurice James, Thanks SVCTE for Collaboration and Commitment

As we bring the 2020-2021 academic year to a close, I want to thank you for your support and collaboration to addressing college and career readiness. I realize that this past year brought many challenges, (a global pandemic, social injustice, a divide country) but I want to highlight that together we instituted a Student Integration College and Career Transition program. I want to especially thank Shannon McIntosh and the Silicon Valley Career Technical Education community who help to design, development and implement with local area community colleges (Foothill, San Jose CC, Evergreen Valley, Mission, De Anza) a system of engagement, integration and community to assistant student on their journey to enrollment and picking a major. Together, we accomplished the following:

**Student Journey to Enrollment**
- High school presence (active versus passive)
- College exposure presentations and events
- Application workshops
- Financial aid support
- Placement support
- Orientation workshops
- Career exploration workshop
- Counseling and education planning
- Registration workshops

**Program of Study/My Major Implementation Partners**
- Career center and career counseling
- General and CTE Counseling
- Support services – provide counseling, registration, financial support ie. Umoja, ASPIRES, MESA, Upward Bound, Puente, Disabilities services, Foster Youth (Guardian Scholar)
- Guided Pathways
- High School Matriculation/high liaison
- Early college credit dual enrollment
- First Year Experience
- High school partners
- Funding – CTEIG, Perkins Grants, K12 SWP, SWP, Student Equity and Achievement Program, Hispanic Student initiative, NSF
- Community College Foundation

I look forward to spending time with my family as we reopen. I wish you and you family a safe and healthy summer.
Summer Opportunities for Students!

Know a student with a passion for arts, media and entertainment? Don't miss out on this amazing opportunity!

One of our very own Work Based Learning partners, Key Code Education, is offering an Assistant Editing Bootcamp this Summer, starting on July 19. Students will complete as an industry Certified Assistant Editor.

Click Here to Register for a Great Free Summer Bootcamp

Congratulations Class of 2021!

It is an amazing accomplishment to have graduated from high school during a pandemic, so kudos to all graduates! We congratulate those who are off to college this fall, and encourage any who are still exploring options to consider community college, as there is still time to enroll by the fall.

Community colleges provide numerous affordable educational and career pathways. Remarkably, there are 7 community colleges in Santa Clara County ranging geographically from Cupertino to Gilroy to Aptos, with diverse programs for certifications, associate and transfer degrees. The first step is to apply for admissions, then enroll and register for classes later. Below is the link to each community college's Admissions site. Information about a Career Technical Education (CTE) pathway or program at each college is also provided.

SCCOE CTE extends wishes for success to all Seniors in their future education and career endeavors! We encourage interested students to check out all the community college if still exploring options. Good luck to all!

DeAnza College Admissions
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Career Tech Education - Santa Clara County Office of Education

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