PAJARO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Pajaro Valley Unified School District is to educate and to support learners in reaching their highest potential. We prepare students to pursue successful futures and to make positive **contributions to the community and global society.**

Press Release

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Pajaro Valley Unified School District Approves Three Courses to Strengthen CTE Program

Watsonville, CA. November 15, 2018 – On Wednesday, the Board of Trustees of Pajaro Valley Unified School District approved three courses that support the District's commitment to creating Career Technical Education (CTE) pathways that result in certifications, internships and dual enrollment opportunities, and enrich students' experience: Auto Body Repair, IT Essentials Plus, and Computer Science Principles.

Dr. Michelle Rodriguez, superintendent, noted that the "PVUSD is focused in ensuring our students are ready for college and career upon high school graduation. These courses, which will be offered starting in the year 2019-20, are representative of robust college and career pathways and we are thrilled that our students will have the option to take these courses."

The Auto Body Repair 1 course is to expand the Transportation industry pathway options at Watsonville High School, will be done in collaboration with Fix Auto, a new local business partnership. The Information Technology (IT) Essentials Plus course will be taught at Watsonville High and Pajaro Valley High and is the first course in a Computer Science & Information Technologies pathway. The third course proposal is for Computer Science Principles course that builds on the Computer Science and IT pathway at Aptos High.

Developing effective CTE pathways enhances students' experience and competitiveness. CTE courses offer hands-on opportunities and can help improve teamwork, problem solving and communication skills. Below is a detailed description of the three courses.

Auto Body Repair 1 (5257)
This 180 hour NATEF approved one-year course is designed to inform and instruct students in the basics of auto body repair. Instruction includes theory and techniques related to the process of welding, metal straightening and panel/body alignment on a variety of auto body industry materials including metal, glass and plastic. Students will learn effective customer relations and sales in multiple settings. Estimating damage repair costs and procedures are key components in this course. Students will be prepared for entry-level employment in the auto body repair industry as an auto body repair technician.

IT Essentials Plus (5052)

This course will introduce students to computer hardware and software, as well as operating systems, networking concepts, mobile devices, IT security, troubleshooting, Cybersecurity attacks, protecting data and privacy, and programming concepts. Students will gain experience and skills in the design and operation of computer and networking systems, develop their critical thinking and problem solving skills as they assess customer needs, analyze possible configurations, and make a troubleshooting solution to solve a hardware, operating systems, networking, and security problem. Students will also be exposed to the tremendous demand of jobs in the industry field and the future societal impact of computing.

Computer Science Principles (PLTW) (5068)

This Computer Science Principles (CSP) is a Project Lead The Way (PLTW) course that builds off of the pre-requisite course Computer Science Essentials. Students work in teams to develop computational thinking and solve problems. The course does not aim to teach mastery of a single programming language but aims instead to develop computational thinking, to generate excitement about the field of computing, and to introduce computational tools that foster creativity. The course also aims to build students' awareness of the tremendous demand for computer specialists and for professionals in all fields who have computational skills. Each unit focuses on one or more computationally intensive career paths. The course also aims to engage students to consider issues raised by the present and future societal impact of computing.

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