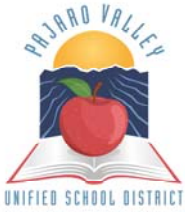


PAJARO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

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
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Celebrating Career Technical Education in PVUSD

Watsonville, CA - The Pajaro Valley Unified School District, along with school districts across the Nation, celebrates Career Technical Education (CTE) in our schools throughout the month of February. In the 2020-2021 school year, CTE in PVUSD continues to realize its vision and intention of providing rigorous, real-world and relevant CTE pathways for our students to engage with in high school. The CTE in PVUSD reflects the District's commitment to ensure that our students are ready for college, career and life as PVUSD graduates.

Dr. Michelle Rodriguez, PVUSD Superintendent of Schools, supports the District's CTE framework, adding, "PVUSD's CTE programs provide high school students with access to exemplary, state-of-the-art, academic career preparation for multiple post-secondary choices. In the upcoming 2021-22 school year, all PVUSD CTE courses will be 100% aligned with A-G college and university requirements and will continue to be responsive to local and national workforce needs to ensure our students are exceptionally prepared to engage in their own community or wherever their postsecondary journey takes them."

CTE is an educational program that prepares students for high-skill, high-demand and high-wage careers in a variety of industries. The Program has 45 teachers, more than 3,600 students and offers 55 courses from 22 pathways reflecting 14 of California's identified major industry sectors. In PVUSD, Signature CTE Pathways at four district high schools are designed to inspire students to engage in integrated project-based learning, acquire professional career and technical skills, earn certifications and access work-based learning experiences. Currently, PVUSD Signature CTE Pathways are Sustainable Agriculture, Systems Programming, Biotechnology, and Graphic Design.

In addition to academic preparation, CTE courses reflect hands-on learning opportunities within every course and pathway. A few examples that we will continue to support and grow include Agricultural Mechanics, Automotive Services, Building and Construction, Agricultural Business, and Entrepreneurship with Project Bike Tech, a non-profit industry partner where students acquire business management skills including customer service, inventory management, communication, and leadership in the context of operating a bike shop.

PVUSD's commitment to the growth of its CTE program includes expansion in 2020-2021 at the middle school level with a 7th grade course as part of a pilot-to-scale project. Julie Edwards, CTE Coordinator in PVUSD, explains "This year, our Exploring CTE course for students in grade 7 at two of our middle schools provides students to gain insight about themselves and exciting possibilities in the world of college and career after high school. By gaining self-knowledge and identifying how their own interests and talents intersect with major industry sectors in California, our students are able to prepare for high school with intention and knowledge as they transition into CTE pathways in PVUSD high schools."

CTE in PVUSD strives to provide industry-aligned, high-quality career pathways leading to high-skill, high-demand, high-wage professions within our regional industry ecosystem and that validate inherent student cultural capital and persistence, leading to a habit of lifelong learning and postsecondary options that include 4 and 2 year colleges, technical training, and/or certification-based employment.