

K-12 STRONG WORKFORCE PROGRAM NEWSLETTER: REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

February 2021

Helix Explore, Develop, Gain, Earn (EDGE) Strong Workforce Program Adds Biotechnology Pathway

This past fall, Helix Charter High School launched their first Biotechnology program and purchased biotechnology textbooks and lab equipment with K-12 Strong Workforce Program funding. Helix also moved quickly to build an industry partnership with Illumina, who graciously donated equipment to support the program. Biotechnology Lead Teacher Dr. Kristina Mitchell was also invited to participate in the Illumina Genomic Discoveries Program 2020-2021 cohort. Everyone at Helix is excited to see how the Biotechnology Pathway grows into a “cutting EDGE” program!



Individual(s) of the Quarter!

Meet our Regional Directors for Employer Engagement!

Ruishan Chow, Advanced Manufacturing:
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Jonathan Kropp, Advanced Transportation and Logistics: jkropp@sdccd.edu

Jennifer Patel, Business and Entrepreneurship:
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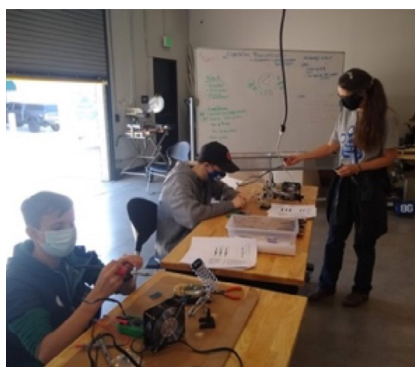
Connie LaFuente, Health:
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Duane Rinehart, ICT and Digital Media:
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Keau Wong, Life Sciences and Biotechnology:
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Imperial County Hosts Career Technical Student Organization Training Series

In September 2020, the Imperial County Strong Workforce Program offered a month-long, weekly series of leadership development workshops to Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) officers representing each Imperial County high school. The virtual training included interactive workshops on the following topics: developmental assets and relationships, improving leadership skills, enhancing teamwork, and goal setting. The 46 participating CTSO officers gained useful information and tools to use in their own CTSO meetings.



Mechatronics Makes Waves at Trade Tech High School

North County Trade Tech High School, a Career Technical Education-focused California Partnership Academy School in Vista, has a new pathway program, Mechatronics. Taught by Madre Marie Rudolph, the program prepares the pathway students to complete the J-Standard soldering certification at MiraCosta’s Technology Career Institute as they learn how to create movement with pneumatics, hydraulics, motorized systems, and more. Additionally, Trade Tech is currently researching additional hand tool certifications with Arduino and Fabrication Foundations to improve students’ career readiness in Robotics Integration and Electrical Foundations.

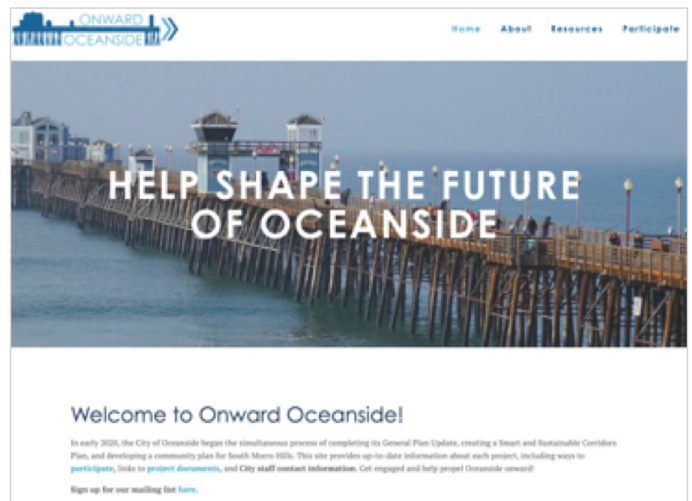
Meet Andreanna Murphy, Career Technical Education (CTE) Counselor

For over a year, I have been the CTE counselor at San Diego Unified School District. I work to support students and families as they navigate CTE pathways and serve as a bridge to community colleges and employers. One of my favorite tasks is student outreach. I love building relationships and being invited into students' homes to answer their questions about career readiness and CTE.



Career Technical Education Students Work with Oceanside City Planners

In Fall 2020, students from El Camino and Oceanside High School Civil Engineering & Architecture pathways participated in the Envisioning the Future of Oceanside youth panel discussion. Students shared their input on housing and environmental protection with the Oceanside City Planning Team. City planners will be using the feedback from students as they update the city's general plan. As a result of the effective collaboration, city officials have continued to include student input in their city works projects, most recently adding valuable feedback to the process of improving road conditions on Oceanside Boulevard.



Southwest High School Provides Home Cooking Opportunities

At Southwest High School, Culinary Arts is a popular pathway with over 450 students enrolled. Despite the pandemic-required shift to online learning, teachers have successfully created an interactive experience for their students through home cooking lessons, instructional videos, take-home ingredient kits, and KP Compass curriculum software. Students provide proof of their work throughout the semester through Google Slides or Flipgrid, demonstrating knowledge of tools and equipment, ingredient organization, cooking procedures, final product pictures, and description of station cleaning. Also, students learn about food safety and food handling to prepare them for the SD County Food Handlers Permit and the Servsafe Restaurant Management exam.

Recommended Resources

ACTE CTE Month: <https://www.acteonline.org/why-cte/cte-awareness/cte-month/>

SDCOE Virtual Work-Based Learning and Industry Connections:

<https://cte.innovatesd.org/COVID19.html#content4-3j>

SDICCC Career Education: <https://careered.org/>