THE COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS BUREAU'S

CTE CORNER



CTE BEST PRACTICES: RIO RANCHO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

The College and Career Readiness Bureau is pleased to relaunch our monthly newsletter, now called The CTE Corner. Our team hopes the platform will provide a variety of helpful ideas, resources, deadlines, and scholarship opportunities for you. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to our dedicated team listed at the end of each newsletter.

Sincerely,

Elaine Perea, PhD

Director, College and Career Readiness Bureau

COVID-19 has certainly turned the education world on its head, but that is not stopping New Mexico educators from offering Career Technical Education programs. Each month for the near future, the College and Career Readiness Bureau will highlight some of the creative ways LEAs are providing CTE to students during this pandemic. This month, we start with Rio Rancho Public Schools.

Many teachers and administrators working in CTE can probably relate to the struggles Rio Rancho Public Schools has faced this year.

"A lot of our CTE programs are hands on," RRPS Perkins director David Latham said. "It doesn't matter if it's robotics or culinary arts, which you can do a little bit more at home, there's just no hands on. That's really hard for our students."

Instead of throwing in the towel, the <u>district's CTE team</u> brainstormed ways to continue sparking interest in careers. The difficult circumstance gave birth to a unique idea.

The team wanted to find a way to provide job shadowing and career exploration in a virtual environment, said CTE Program Coordinator, Benton Spradlin.

"That's where this idea came," he said. "David just said, why don't we just got out there and go interview them, put it on the website, share them with the teachers, and see what we can do there."

From that point on, the district's <u>Job Shadow Interviews</u> platform took off. It allows students to watch short interview videos with local technicians, carpenters, scientists, and more. Not only do students get an opportunity to understand *what* the employees do, but they describe *how* they got into that particular career path. Chalmers Ford, Carpentry & Construction Mgt., Jaynes, Corporation, and Hewlett Packard are some of the New Mexico companies that have already participated, and there are more to come.

STORY CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE



"I REALLY DO BELIEVE [COVID IS] GOING TO CHANGE EDUCATION DOWN THE ROAD." -RIO RANCHO PUBLIC SCHOOLS PERKINS DIRECTOR DAVID LATHAM

Igniting Student Potential

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"That's what COVID has taught us. Think outside of the box," Latham said. "I really do believe it's going to change education down the road."

The job shadow interviews are just one instance of CTE growth at RRPS. The district currently has 18 CTE programs at the high school level, serving about 2,400 students. Several programs were launched within the last five years including:

- Welding
- Nursing
- Fire Science
- Python Programming
- Project Lead the Way TW Biomedical Sciences
- Teacher Prep/Educators Rising

- Project Lead the Way Computer Science
- Automotive Technology
- Medical Assistant
- Community Protection (Criminal Justice)/Law Enforcement

The team recognizes this year has been as difficult as ever for many teachers, but they left some final words of encouragement to CTE teachers.

"Don't stress yourself about it, do the best that you can. Don't worry if you feel like you're losing kids or feel like you're doing enough, just do the best that you can," Spradlin said. "We're going to get through this."



REGION FOCUS

This month, we are highlighting Region E. It includes nine districts totaling more than 11,000 students. Major employers include Isleta Casino and Resort, Intel Corporation, Albuquerque International Sunport, Tricore Reference Laboratories, Honeywell Aerospace, and Presbyterian Healthcare Services. The occupations with the largest projected growth include Personal Care and Service Occupations (5,595 new jobs), Construction (2,995), and Health Care Practitioners and Technical (2,895). In the winter of 2019, the following local economic and educational priorities were identified for Region E: Healthcare, IT/STEM, Manufacturing, and Skilled Trades.



CAREER CLUSTERS GUIDE BOOK 3.0 NOW AVAILABLE







The *College and Career Readiness Bureau* is now offering the 3rd edition of the *Career Cluster Guide Book*. It provides resources and information intended to support your school's efforts toward college and career readiness for students. The latest edition includes updated New Mexico resources, career information, postsecondary options, and course recommendations (now including middle school courses). English and Spanish copies are available to New Mexico schools for *free*. To be included in the next round of distribution, fill out this survey.

NEW MEXICO CAREER PATHWAYS DASHBOARD VERSION 2.0

Another great CTE resource is up for grabs. The new and improved New Mexico Career Pathways dashboard version 2.0 is now available. The platform display has a new look and includes the latest labor market data for all districts in the state. This is a great way for your students to discover more about careers in their area. To view a virtual training session of the updated dashboard, click here.

CTE LEARN HELPS EDUCATORS ONLINE

If you are looking to train your CTE administrators and instructors, the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) launched an employee learning network called CTE Learn. The platform offers paid continuing education credit couses along with a variety of free resources for both secondary and postsecondary CTE professionals. It provides online tutorials on topics ranging from CTE administration, workplace skills, creating individual development plans, and more. The courses are self-paced and allow users to share resources with colleagues.



ADVANCED PLACEMENT REMINDERS



- AP Exams: The deadline to order AP exams for full-year and first semester courses is Friday, November 13. There is no cancellation or unused exam fee this year, so consider ordering exams for all of your AP students. (However, exams ordered after Nov. 13 incur a \$40 late fee each, regardless of fee waiver status.) Qualifying students pay just \$3 per exam when their fee-waiver status is indicated in the APRO system.
- 2nd Semester Online AP: If your school does not offer AP U.S. Government, AP
 Macroeconomics and/or AP Microeconomics, your students can take the courses
 online through Florida Virtual School this spring. A PED Scholarship pays 100
 percent of tuition (withdrawal fees apply), and qualifying students are eligible for
 exam fee waivers.
- For Advanced Placement questions or more information, contact Alexandra Lutz at 505-827-6417 or <u>Alexandra.Lutz@state.nm.us</u>.



PROJECT LEAD THE WAY

Project Lead the Way (PLTW), a nonprofit organization that provides high-quality, rigorous education in Computer Science, Engineering, and Biomedical Science for PreK-12, is sharing exciting news for English Language Learners. PLTW's Launch and Gateway student and teacher curriculum are now both available in English and Spanish. Training is completely virtual with distance learning resources available. To register for your teachers for summer professional development, click here. You may also contact Ester Gonzalez, New Mexico PLTW Director of School Engagement, at egonzalez@pltw.org.



VIRTUAL FALL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) leaders from across the state participated in the CTSO Fall Leadership Rallies "MULTIPLY Your Leadership" on October 19-20. The virtual conference reached more than a thousand CTE advisors and students, teaching them how to multiply their leadership skills. "This year's conference had the highest participation in recent years and we are thrilled to support students across CTSOs," said Christine Phipps, director of the Career Technical Leadership Project.

SCHOLARSHIP OF THE MONTH



The New York Life Award

- \$1,000 scholarships to six students across the country
- Special state-level \$500 scholarships to two students in New Mexico
- Students are asked to share their story of personal grief and loss
- All students in grade 7-12 (ages 13 and up) are eligible to participate
- Deadlines as early as Dec. 1, 2020
- For more information, click here

DATES & DEADLINES

- Nov. 9-13: <u>NMASBO Virtual Fall Conference</u>
- Nov. 13: New deadline for Back to School/SEL survey
- Nov. 13: NM's National Blue Ribbon Schools honored
- Nov. 24: deadline for changes to SAT on Dec. 5



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DO YOU HAVE A CTE EVENT OR STORY YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE? REACH OUT TO OUR COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR AT CHRISTIAN.NARANJO@STATE.NM.US