

Career and Technical Education
Board Report – December 9, 2019

The mission of Career and Technical Education (CTE) is to empower CTE students to successfully transition into post-secondary and career opportunities and become positive, contributing members of society. CTE students in our district will gain technical and high-level academic skills, thus equipping them to be lifelong learners.

CTE receives a substantial amount of federal funding from the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act. As a district we have begun the transition of moving away from Perkins IV and into the new Perkins V (Perkins V is federally mandated and state approved). Perkins V will increase the need for community feedback and emphasize locally driven decisions regarding CTE programs. Perkins V introduces a comprehensive local needs assessment that requires data-driven decision-making on local spending and includes significant stakeholder consultation. BISD is the district of choice and is ahead of the curve on this mandate because of our strong partnerships with local institutions and industries such as TSTC, Ranger College, Kohler and 3M. These relationships will only deepen with the implementation of Perkins V.

Pursuant to feedback from Workforce Solutions and local industry leaders, the CTE department will continue to increase certification options for Pharmacy Technician, Certified Nurse Aide, and Automotive (ASE). We have also added the following certifications for this year: ACA via Adobe (Graphic Design and Photo classes), MTA – Intro to Programing using Java (Computer Science classes), AWS D1.1 and AWS D9.1 (Welding classes), and Adobe Certified Associate (Audio/Video classes).

As the chart below illustrates, CTE course enrollment continues to grow at a significant rate, especially in the areas of technology and welding. (Please note this is not an exhaustive list of courses and pathways available).

Courses	2019	2018	2017	2016
<i>Audio/Video</i>	71	56	21	0
<i>Computer Science</i>	63	18	0	0
<i>Education</i>	70	66	63	83
<i>Health Science</i>	263	52	52	36
<i>Photo/Graphic Design</i>	56	31	17	0
<i>Science</i>	160	114	64	22
<i>Welding</i>	83	71	0	0
<i>TOTAL(s)</i>	766	408	217	141

This year we added a new course entitled *Principles of Technology*. The course counts as a fourth science option for those who would like a more hands-on experience. In the course students conduct laboratory and field investigations, use scientific practices during investigations, and make informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. We have also added robotics at the high school and partnered with TSTC, the City of Brownwood, and 3M to begin a maintenance technician pathway where students can receive a Mechatronics Diploma/Certificate and a pathway to local employment after graduation.

BISD also entered into a Workforce Career & Education Pilot Program that began this fall at the high school. Twice monthly an assigned Workforce Career & Education Outreach Specialist works primarily with 12th grade students and teachers. These meetings include general discussions about local career options. This program also includes individual meetings with students to discuss personalized career planning. The senior class also attended the WOW (World of Work) expo this year in Abilene where they were allowed the opportunity to speak with the military, area industry partners, and universities.

Not only are CTE students challenged by high expectations in the classroom, but they get the chance to display their skills in competitions related to their pathway. These competitions include organizations like Future Farmers of American (FFA), Skills USA, Family Career & Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) and Texas Association of Future Educators (TAFE).

Several of our students have been quite successful at the competitions and have competed on the national level in addition to earning district and state titles. Our FFA program recently took 25 students to District LDE (Leadership Development Events) and advanced 6 teams to area. Teams competed in such areas as public relations, agriculture issues, and agricultural advocacy. TAFE also recently competed in their district competition and all 11 competitors advanced to the state level. Students competed in events such as children's literature, educational leadership and job interview skills.

Lindsay Smith, CTE Director has also been appointed to the Texas CTE Leadership Committee for the 2019-2020 academic year. This appointment allows her to represent BISD and our education service center region and to influence major CTE initiatives impacting CTE programs throughout Texas. This committee also serves as a key resource in the development of the new CTE State Plan that will go into effect in July 2020 and will improve the flow of CTE information across the state. Ms. Smith has also completed the Texas CTE Leadership Academy which is affiliated with Texas A&M.

The Board and District Leadership will soon receive invitations to attend CTE's second annual BITS (Brownwood Industry Tradeshow). BITS will occur in February and will be an excellent opportunity for Brownwood High School and the CTE Department to showcase to local industries and the community the many technical opportunities and certifications that are offered at BISD – the district of choice.