



October 2022 Newsletter

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Welcome back!



The Career and Adult Learning Services team (CALS) is off to a great start with new team members, new classes, growth in all programs and a great deal of optimism for the 2022-2023 school year. The department includes our Magnet and Alternative Education CTE courses, CAC, Sueños, and adult programs. These programs are preparing both high school and adult students for a wide variety of careers.

In addition, we are excited to announce that the CALS team will be sharing this new quarterly newsletter throughout the year. The newsletter's goal is to highlight department initiatives as well as student, teacher and program stories that are changing lives within our Santa Cruz community. The team is excited about all the new projects and plans for the upcoming year.

Meet the CALS Team

<p>Name: Sony Sanson Title: Executive Director I can help you with...</p> <p>Anything you need! And if I don't know the answer I will be sure to help you find it!</p> <p>Something you might not know about me...</p> <p>My giant puppy thinks he is my child and loves me very much. I have 4 children ages 13-26.</p>	<p>Name: Yvonne Pizano Title: Department Coordinator I can help you with...</p> <p>If I do not know the answer, I will find an answer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timesheets • PO's / Invoices • Reimbursements • Driving Paperwork / Van • AESOP • Related Q's to PS, CALPADS • Conf Rm booking <p>Dept Coordinating and assisting our fiscal analyst for: CTE, CAC and Suenos</p> <p>Something you might not know about me... I was born in Fresno, California. I have NEVER paid for an orange.</p>	<p>Name: Taylor Threlkeld Title: Project/Data Specialist I can help you with...</p> <p>Anything you need! Specialities are: CTE, Adult Programs, High School Diploma Program</p> <p>Something you might not know about me....</p> <p>I have a big dog and a little dog. A German Shepherd and a miniature Dachshund.</p>
<p>Name Scott Keller Title: CTE Coordinator I can help you with...</p> <p>All CTE and Adult Education program related questions</p> <p>Something you might not know about me....</p> <p>I like to read, surf, play tennis, ping pong and cycle.</p>	<p>Name Laura Macondray Title Community Organizer CALS and Alternative Education</p> <p>I can help you with...</p> <p>Anything you need! And if I don't know the answer I will be sure to help you find it!</p> <p>Something you might not know about me....</p> <p>I have 2 children children, Asher and Ezra.</p>	<p>Name: Elizabeth Shaw Title: IT Essentials Instructor and Computer Science Pathway Coordinator I can help you with...</p> <p>CTE Student Engagement, Cabrillo Pathways, Google Classroom, K-12 Computer Science programs</p> <p>Something you might not know about me....</p> <p>I love to sing and was in a R&B band in Southern California.</p>

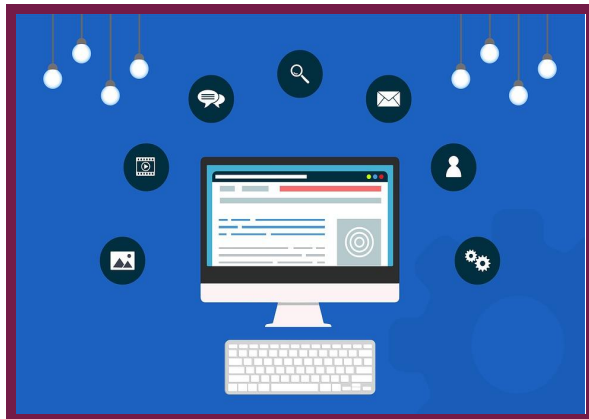
Latest News



August Professional Learning

The 2022-2023 school year kicked off in August with our CTE and Adult Education instructors coming together to participate in our first team professional learning. With this year's focus being how to develop high quality career technical education programs from high school and beyond, our

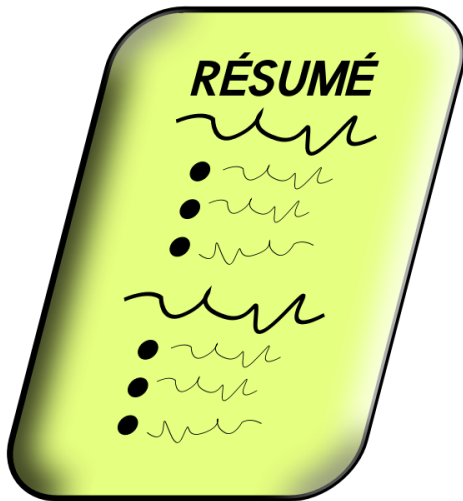
amazing team of instructors collaborated on shared experiences and ideas. Throughout the year our team will be collaborating on building strong portfolios, advisory boards, use of technology, connection to industry, and celebration of student work.



Student Information System Upgrades

The CALS team, in collaboration with Tech+, has been working on an upgraded SIS system. The project upgrade includes three phases, with each enhancement focused on expanding capabilities of communication, data and

teacher/counselor access. Thank you to Jason Borgen and Miguel Rocha for all their time and commitment to making these upgrades possible. We are excited about introducing improvements throughout the year.



Cabrillo Career Certificate Pilot Expanding

During the Spring of last year, our [Information, Technology and Communication \(ICT\)](#) and [Cabrillo College](#) collaborated to embed a Cabrillo Career Certificate into our course. For two weeks, a Cabrillo instructor led the ICT students on how to build a cover letter, resume and prepare for interviews.

Last year's pilot program's overwhelming success has now resulted in our CALS team expanding it into our BTPA, Medical and Dental programs this year. This non-credit certificate provides students with a strong foundation for entering the job market within their chosen sector. We are excited and grateful for our collaboration with Cabrillo College and are looking forward to further expansion into all courses in the future.



[LEARN MORE](#)

Magnet Courses



The CTE Magnet courses are an important option for high school students looking to discover potential careers within a wide range of career sectors. The COE's high quality CTE courses provide students the opportunity to gain high school and college credit while meeting the UC A-G

requirements.

Our strong partnership with Cabrillo college is providing students with a number options to consider such as:

- Construction Technology
- Culinary Arts
- Baking and Pastries
- Cybersecurity and Networking
- Fire Technology
- Information Support Services
- Music Technology

The COE is currently serving over 230 students within these various courses. In addition to growing our current offerings, we are excited about future career pathway opportunities that will be ready for the 2023-2024 school year. There is a great deal to be excited about within CTE!

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CTE Student Spotlight- ICT Pathway (IT Essentials)

Eric is very close to our hearts at the COE. He attended high school at La Manzanita through SCCOE Alternative Education. His teacher, Dave Spencer, worked closely with him, and was a wonderful teacher and mentor. In his senior year, Eric signed up for our ICT Pathway through Cabrillo and CTE. He completed the first year IT Essentials course, earning 4 Cabrillo College credits. He also took two other Cabrillo dual-enrollment courses, Ethnic Studies and Career Skills, in

his senior year. He graduated from La Manzanita in May 2021, being able to enjoy his senior year and feel proud of all he accomplished!

In summer 2021, Eric attended the Summer Cybersecurity Camp at Cabrillo, and made such an impression that the Cabrillo CIS team wanted to hire him as a student intern for their campus Help Desk. He's currently attending Cabrillo College, and is enrolled in our Year 2 ICT Pathway program, taking courses to complete his certificate in Cybersecurity and Networking. In addition, Alternative Education has hired him as a Data Analyst to work on student data projects.

Eric is a bright, energetic and motivated young man who has made such a difference in the lives of those around him. He is a wonderful representative of the CALS family, and the amazing programs offered by the COE and Cabrillo College. I feel honored to have been with him on this part of his journey, and I can't wait to hear more about his future endeavors!

Adult Learning Programs



The CALS team is extremely proud to offer a variety of career pathways for our adult students. The Dental Assisting, Medical Assisting and the new Building Trades programs help prepare students for the skills necessary to be successful in each of these industry sectors. These courses, which take place at the 399 Encinal Building, also offer opportunities for certifications and direct connections to industry experts.

This year the CALS team is excited to announce our new collaboration with Cabrillo College. All students participating in these programs will have an opportunity to earn a Cabrillo College Career Skills (non-credit) certificate that focuses on resume and interviewing. This new Pilot will be integrated into each of the course's curriculum and will be led by a Cabrillo College instructor for a duration of two weeks.



In addition, with the leadership of our dedicated instructors, CALS is pleased to announce that our numbers have increased for both Dental and Medical Assisting. Medical Assisting more than doubled this year in enrollment. Our new Building Trades Program has also expanded from one cohort to three this school year. There is a great deal of opportunity within the Adult Programs and we are excited for all of our 2022-2023 students!



Adult Program Student Spotlight- Dental Assisting



For this month's newsletter, we are excited to celebrate news from one of the program's recent graduates.

Kalexiz Servin, who was hired to work full time at the Dientes Dental Clinic one month before graduation, was just named "**Employee of the Quarter**". Upon receiving the news,

she reached out to Debbie Martinez, the Santa Cruz COE Dental Assisting Instructor, to share the following message.

"Hey Ms. Martinez I just wanted to let you know that I really appreciate having you as an instructor! I learned so much from you! Guess what? I won employee of the quarter! Thank you for not letting me give up when I had tough days during my internship!"

Congratulations to both Kalexiz and Debbie for their dedication to the program!

Program Spotlight- Building Trades Pre-Apprenticeship Program



The Building Trades Pre-Apprenticeship Program (BTPA) was developed to address a growing need in Santa Cruz county to aid in the development and growth of employees in the trades industry. The goal is to educate, expose, and train students in the wide range of

trades and vocational opportunities in our county; including plumbing, carpentry, electrical, large machine operations, and city and county jobs.

The first cohort, launched in Spring 2022 with 11 students under the guidance of CTE instructor Sean Patrick, was an amazing success. Students completed a 10 week intensive program which involved certification in union recognized MC3 curriculum, OSHA 10 training, and AHA CPR/First Aid. Students toured local industries like Santa Cruz City Water Treatment Center, Granite Rock, and George W. Wilson. All 11 students completed the program and can now be found employed locally at Rosenthal Plumbing, Aptos Plumbing, Precision Title, Beaulieu Construction, Colligan Electric, A Tool Shed, and Sandbar Solar.

CALS is excited to have 3 cohorts taking place during the 2022-2023 school year that will also include the new Career Skill certification in partnership with Cabrillo College. This is a growing program that is an amazing opportunity for adults looking to gain the necessary skills in this industry sector.

[JOIN OUR BTPA COHORT](#)

Sueños Updates



The Sueños Program supports teenagers and young adults (ages 16 to 24) develop workplace skills that will prepare them to enter and thrive in an increasingly competitive labor market. Sueños is a Santa Cruz County Office of Education (SCCOE) program in partnership with the Workforce Development Board of Santa Cruz County.

During the summer, staff attended a California Workforce Association conference, Meeting of the Minds: Courageous Progress. This conference brought together over 500 participants, with diverse backgrounds and experiences, from all over California. Attendees were able to connect with others and work together in tackling the issues faced by workforce development in California. All program services continue to be offered in-person and virtually, based on participant needs.

If you or someone you know is interested, applications can be completed in person or the following link below.

[Sueños Pre-Screening Application](#)

CAC Updates



The Career Advancement Charter (CAC) is an Independent Study program for adult learners to earn their high school diploma while gaining academic and technical skills that will lead to college and career readiness.

Plazas Comunitarias

The CAC is proud to partner with the Watsonville Public Library, INEA (Instituto Nacional para la Educación de los Adultos) and the Mexican Consulate to offer free basic skills education classes in Spanish, known as Plaza Comunitaria, to our community. Classes have started and are currently being offered at the Watsonville Public Library (Monday and Wednesday evenings) and at Sequoia Schools (Tuesday and Thursday evenings). Our Community Organizers are actively connecting with the community and recruiting students who will benefit from this program.

PSC South County

The CAC is expanding on our partnership with the Probation Success Center by providing our high school diploma program now in South County. We will have an independent studies teacher supporting South County students at the new Watsonville Success Center. Our regular programming will continue with the help of our teacher and support staff.

Dual Enrollment success

The CAC remains committed to increasing accessibility to a variety of educational opportunities and support services for our adult students. With the support of GOAL, the CAC has successfully enrolled interested students into Cabrillo's dual enrollment program for the fall semester. Our transition specialist continues to support all of our students with career readiness and college transition services.

[LEARN MORE](#)

For more information about CALS, please visit our [website](#).