



March 2023 Newsletter

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Latest News



Save the Date 4/12 2022

Think Big! - Your Future Awaits! A Career Exploration Event

The CALS and Tech+ departments, in collaboration with [Santa Cruz Works](#) and [Your Future is our Business](#), invite all Santa Cruz County educators, students, and community members to our Think Big! Spring event on April 12th. This event will provide participants the opportunity to explore the various [high school](#) and [adult career technical education programs](#) that the Santa Cruz County Office of Education has to offer and listen to an inspirational all-star panel share their personal career journey experiences. This event will be held in Santa Cruz at [Cruzio Internet](#) and Watsonville at [Digital NEST](#). **FREE** food and beverage will be provided for all in-person participants.

Event schedule

4:30 - 5:30 - CTE Exploration Tables and Pizza

5:30 -5:45 Transition Panel Discussion

5:45-6:30 Panel Discussion

6:30- 6:45 Close

[REGISTER TODAY](#)



SLV Career Day -

CALS will host a College and Career information table on March 22 at San Lorenzo Valley High School. Students will hear about high school CTE course options in Culinary Arts, Fire Technology, ICT, and post high school adult career pathways through our Building Trades Pre-Apprenticeship Program, Medical Assisting, and Dental Assisting.

If your district is interested in us talking with your students or attending an event, please contact-

Scott Keller- skeller@santacruzcoe.org and
Laura Macondray- lmacondray@santacruzcoe.org

Your Future is Our Business

YOUR FUTURE
IS OUR BUSINESS

The 22nd annual Your Future is Our Business luncheon will take place March 31st at Twin Lakes Church in Aptos. The luncheon brings together educators, business partners, community leaders and students to acknowledge and celebrate the career technical education programs and program supporters. Students' work is highlighted in the CTE showcase. Catering and service are organized and facilitated by CALS Chef Andrea Mollenauer and the [Culinary Arts](#) students.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Magnet Courses Registration Is Open!



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 allow students the opportunity to gain high school and college credit while meeting the UC A-G

requirements.

With the 2023-2024 school year schedule process for classes beginning now, please share the following resources with your students about the wide range of opportunities the Santa Cruz COE has to offer within CTE. All courses are UC A-G approved and provide students the opportunity to earn college credit through our partnership with Cabrillo College.

Flyers are available for download:

- [Culinary Arts Career Pathway](#) / [Culinary Arts Career Pathway \(Spanish\)](#)
- [ICT Career Pathways](#) / [ICT Career Pathways \(Spanish\)](#)
- [Fire Technology Santa Cruz](#) / [Fire Technology Santa Cruz \(Spanish\)](#)
- [Fire Technology Watsonville](#) / [Fire Technology Watsonville \(Spanish\)](#)

Registration in all courses is limited, so encourage students to sign up right away. Our CALS team works with all counselors throughout the county to ensure courses will be added to student's schedules.

**2023-2024 STUDENT
REGISTRATION**

CTE Program Spotlight - Fire Technology



The Santa Cruz County Office of Education has been proudly providing students the opportunity to learn about a career in the Fire Technology Field for over two decades. Over the years, various local Firefighters have provided instruction and guidance to hundreds of students throughout the county. Currently, we are proud to have both Fire Chief Rudy Lopez Sr and Firefighter, Richard Garcia leading our courses in both Watsonville and Santa Cruz.

Students participating in this course receive an introduction and understanding of fire service and operations. Topics will include an overview of the following: firefighter selection process, career opportunities, fire chemistry and physics, fire department resources, administration, support functions, training, fire prevention, fire protection systems, and equipment, emergency incident management and operations. In addition, one of the many benefits of the Santa Cruz County Office of Education's Fire Technology course is the opportunity for high school students to earn college credit through our [articulated](#) courses*.



[LEARN MORE](#)

Adult Learning Programs

The Santa Cruz County Office of Education is excited to offer Dental Assisting, Medical Assisting and Building Trades programs to help prepare adult students for the skills necessary to be successful in a future career. These hands-on programs will provide all participants to earn certifications and direct connections to industry experts.



Dental Assisting Program

The Santa Cruz County Office of Education is proud to offer a career pathway into a dental assisting career. Our program offers the student basic entry-level information, skills and clinical practice in all areas relating to the field of dental assisting.

Registration closes on April 30th- [Register Today!](#)



Medical Assisting Program

This 10-month course teaches the necessary skills and knowledge needed to perform the duties of a medical assistant. Students participating will understand the role of both the administrative and clinical medical assistant.

Registration closes on April 30th- [Register Today!](#)



Building Trades Pre-Apprenticeship Program

This 10-week NO COST program is an intensive hands-on program designed to prepare adult students to enter an apprenticeship program or directly enter the local workforce.

Fall 2023 Registration- [Learn more](#)

Sueños Spotlight



The Sueños Program supports teenagers and young adults (ages 16 to 24) to 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.

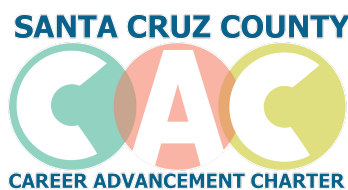
Sueños participants attended the annual CWA's Youth Symposium 2023: At the Threshold of Your Future. This virtual event featured dynamic keynote speakers and youth-focused workshop sessions centered around what to know to ensure that youth and young adults thrive in today's and the future economy. Attendees learned about what they need to thrive, what jobs they need to prepare for and what skills will be required to fill these jobs. A big THANK YOU to Safal Partners for sponsoring Sueños youth and giving them the opportunity to attend such a life-changing event.

A quote from a Sueños participant who attended:

"The CWA virtual conference was a really great experience. Through it I got to meet a lot of interesting and wonderful people. I learned a lot, but most importantly to me, I learned where I can get resources to help find a job and an internship." ~Miguel

[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.

Certification Pilot Program

The CALS team will be working with our CAC team to run a pilot certificate program in partnership with [Certiport](#). This program will provide students the opportunity to complete curriculum in a variety of industry areas to help prepare them for certification exams. Students will be able to access all curriculum through the online format and receive ongoing support from their CAC instructor. The CALS team is looking at potentially making the COE a Certiport Testing Center as well to provide students ease of access for those looking to take the exams. Depending on the success of the Spring pilot, the CALS team may look at expanding this program next year.

CAC is excited to now offer Evening Learning Sessions

All students enrolled in the Career Advancement Charter high school diploma program will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of evening sessions/workshops. Sessions will run Monday through Thursday, from 5 pm to 7 pm. These are great opportunities for you to get direct assistance, develop your skills, and earn credit!

For more information on the evening classes, review the current [Evening Learning Session Schedule](#).

Practical Nurturing Support Group Kick-Off, 2/14/23

Our very own Vrinda Quintero, Blanca Corrales, and Edith Corrales are hosting a practical nurturing support group for new mothers on Tuesdays, from 5 pm to 6 pm. In this group, we will focus on the practical and emotional aspects of motherhood. This program, which will take place once a month, will continue until the end of the school year.

[LEARN MORE](#)



The BACCC comprises 28 colleges and their framework is to facilitate, collaborate, plan, manage, communicate and inform their local education agencies (LEA's) about career education programs. It creates career pathways through collaborations with the K12 and Adult Education Consortia partners to prepare students for high-demand, livable wages.

K12 Pathway Coordinator attended the Labor Market Information training to be able to support their LEA's, establish new career pathways, and apply for grants. Additionally, K12 PCs are learning how to score Strong Workforce Grants to better support their LEAs when applying for funds.

[LEARN MORE](#)

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