

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Over a Half Million Dollars Awarded to Chico Unified

Career Technical Education Grant Will Help Fund ALL 21 Career Pathways at Chico and Pleasant Valley High Schools

Chico, CA – Chico Unified School District is collaborating with businesses and the community to create a comprehensive and vibrant Career Technical Education (CTE) Program. The newest grant award will provide \$709,335 to expand and enhance the 21 CTE Career Pathways at Chico and Pleasant Valley High Schools.

Chico Unified School District has received the competitive K12 Strong Workforce Program grant for the last four years. Since the first Strong Workforce grant award in 2019, Chico Unified has received 2.6 million dollars for the high school CTE programs. Funds are used to enhance existing programs by improving classroom facilities, equipment, industry-specific professional development and work-based learning opportunities for students.

Continued advancement and coursework in the skilled trades help provide student prospects beyond graduation. Hands-on learning and career readiness programs are expanding. Chico Unified offers nine industry sectors and 21 individual Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathways district-wide.

Facility improvements include the recently unveiled Pleasant Valley High School Campus buildings: the Medical Pathway/Sports Therapy Classroom, Culinary Arts and Viking Fire & Fork Learning Facility.

The Culinary Arts Pathway Project includes eight industrial cooking stations in the training lab, a video demonstration counter, industrial wait stations, wash stations, and state-of-the-art training equipment. Adjacent to the industrial kitchen lab is a “Restaurant Experience” lab. The Viking Fire & Fork allows culinary students to work and manage a real-world campus and event dining experience.

Several other Career Technical Education grant-funded facilities are currently in construction at Pleasant Valley High School. New projects underway include a child development classroom, Arts, Media and Entertainment (AME) lab and the Architecture and Manufacturing upgrades. Improvements include a new architecture lab, a new Computer Aided Design (CAD) lab with 38 portable workstations and a modernized welding shop.

Chico High School’s Agricultural programs have seen upgrades, including a new greenhouse and welding shop extension and new equipment.

Learn more about school improvement projects and the growing Career Technical Education Pathways available to Chico High, Pleasant Valley High School and Oak Bridge Academy students at www.chicousd.org.

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About Chico Unified School District’s Career and Technical Education Programs:

Chico Unified School District offers nine industry sectors with 21 individual pathways: <http://www.chicousd.org/documents/2021-2022-CTE-curriculum-catalog.pdf>

- **Pleasant Valley:** Architecture, Engineering, Welding and Fabrication, Food Service and Hospitality, Child Development, Education, Patient Care, Sports Medicine, Graphic Arts, Commercial Arts, Video Production, Public Safety
- **Chico High:** Ag Welding, Agriscience, Ornamental Horticulture, Floriculture, Digital Arts, Engineering, Architecture, Patient Care, Information Support and Services, Software and Systems Development