



GOOSE CREEK

CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



IMPACT Early College High School Ambassadors (l to r) Yudith Chavez, 12th; Nancy Vega, 11th and Cynthia Torres, 12th, display the cornerstone leveled by the Grand Lodge of Texas and Baytown Masonic Lodge #1357 at the recent Dedication Ceremony for IMPACT ECHS.

Goose Creek CISD Dedicates IMPACT Early College High School

IMPACT Early College High School opened its doors to students August 24, the first day of school this year, and the school was officially dedicated to the community November 10. Built at 1415 Market Street on the site of the old Goose Creek CISD Administration Building, the campus allows easy access to Lee College and the classes and other resources the college offers. IMPACT began in 2009 with 100 freshman students, chosen from the five junior schools when they were eighth graders, and each year approximately 100 new freshmen are accepted.

The first group of 89 graduates, many of whom had already received associate degrees from Lee College, walked across the stage to receive their high school diplomas in June 2014. This past June, 74 students graduated from IMPACT. The students who did not also earn associate degrees accumulated college hours, and many completed their degrees in the summer.

Paige Soape, president of Christian Student Union, gave the invocation, and Adamia Coverson and Steve Torres led the pledges. The national anthem was performed by the Singing Spartans. Randal O'Brien, Goose Creek CISD superintendent, welcomed everyone and recognized special guests. Jenice Coffey, president of the Goose Creek CISD Board of Trustees and Dr. Dennis Brown, president of Lee College, praised the program and the partnership between Goose Creek CISD and Lee College.

Siavash Zamirpour, Student Council President, described the opportunities that IMPACT had given him



(from left) Karen Smithson, the first IMPACT Early College High School principal, and Dr. Toby York, former Goose Creek CISD superintendent, enjoy the IMPACT ECHS Dedication Ceremony with Randal O'Brien, Goose Creek CISD principal, and Laura Reyes, IMPACT ECHS principal.

Laura Bernal, IMPACT graduate in 2014, reflected on her time at IMPACT and how it had positively affected her college career as well as her life.

In a video by Carrie Pryor-Newman of the Communications Department, IMPACT students gave their thoughts on the opportunities that IMPACT is allowing them to have and the sense of family they have at the school. Matthew Broussard concluded the dedication ceremony with a reading of the Spartan Creed. After the dedication, members of the Grand Lodge of Texas and

discussed the opportunities that IMPACT had given them. Laura Reyes, IMPACT principal, thanked everyone involved with making IMPACT a reality, especially her faculty and staff members, who were unpacking boxes the day before school started.

Baytown Masonic Lodge No. 1357 performed the ceremony to level the cornerstone. Guest were invited to tour the campus with IMPACT Ambassadors and to attend the reception.

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