

First Early College High School students to receive associate's degrees

On May 11, Lee College will celebrate another varied group of accomplished graduates. In their midst will be three graduates of special distinction-- three who share a unique situation that sets them apart from the others. These three individuals, Pablo Chavez, Azalia Sprecher and Alondra Uribe, will receive associate's degrees from Lee College a full year before they graduate from high school.

Students of Impact Early College High School, Chavez, Sprecher and Uribe, have been on an accelerated academic track since their freshman year. Immersed in challenging high school courses that facilitate their transition to college-level coursework, students of Early College High School enroll in their first college class at age 14. By the time they are old enough to drive, many ECHS students have completed twenty or more hours of college coursework. With the full support of a team of innovative teachers and staff, encouragement and guidance from Goose Creek and Lee College High School students work toward a lofty goal of graduating simultaneously from Goose Creek with a high school diploma and from Lee College with an associate's degree.

These three students, however, have accomplished an even more impressive feat. Through the combination of accelerated high school courses, summer school, dualcredit courses and AP exams, these three dedicated individuals will complete their goal a year ahead of schedule. Before they've even received their high school diplomas, they will graduate from college with associate's degrees. As members of the first class of students to enroll at Impact Early College High School, Chavez, Sprecher and Uribe will share the added distinction of being the first graduates from Impact to receive their degrees.

While their academic achievements have received the most acclaim, these three have dedicated themselves to more than their schoolwork. Each has participated in the building of the new Early College High School. Each has helped to lay the foundations for all the classes that will follow in their footsteps. Active in clubs and activities, such as Student Council, National Honor Society, Interact and other high school and college organizations, these self-motivated students have been models of leadership, service and character.

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Pablo Chavez, Azalia Sprecher and Alondra Uribe, students at Impact Early College High School, look forward to May 11 when they will receive their associate's degrees from Lee College one year before they graduate from high school.

On May 11, Impact Early College High School will celebrate with its three distinctive graduates as they receive their associate's degrees and begin to look forward to broader horizons at four-year universities. They will celebrate their success individuals, but they will also celebrate the success of the Early College High School program and its continued commitment to providing educational opportunities to the community of Baytown.





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