



# GOOSE CREEK

## CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

### GCCISD's inaugural Career Night a big success

A sea of students and parents filled the Commons at Robert E. Lee High School on March 20, all busily looking for the perfect career opportunity after high school graduation.

Hosted by Goose Creek's Career and Technical Education (CTE) Department, the Commons area was comfortably crowded. More than 325 students attended the event with their parents, strolling through the exhibit area and attending sessions on developing a high school graduation plan.

The goal of Career Night was to provide students and parents with an opportunity to understand the educational requirements for jobs in the local area.

"Because more than 70 percent of occupations today require employees to have education beyond high school, it is extremely important for students and parents to understand that everyone will need some type of education after high school," said Renea Dillon, Goose Creek CISD's director of Career & Technical Education. "This type of event helps spread the word about new education and training requirements for these occupations while students still have time to design their high school program of study."

And hundreds of students did take advantage of the opportunity, even those who are years away from graduating high school. The event drew Goose Creek students from nearly every school — elementary to high school — in the district.

Local business, community, industry and post-secondary schools were invited to participate in the event to provide information on their occupations. There were approximately 93 representatives present, representing all 16 CTE career clusters, 19 companies (ExxonMobil, Bayer, Chevron Phillips, San Jacinto Methodist Hospital, Enterprise, and a host of others), six colleges, and 25 GCCISD faculty members.

Sterling High School FFA and Lee High School Skills USA student organization members served as volunteers during the event.

In recent years, Goose Creek CISD has beefed up its CTE department at that spans all three high schools, the Peter E. Hyland Center, and the John M. Stuart Career Center. The department has also expanded its offers at the junior school level.

Students in Goose Creek have more than 80 career electives from which to choose. The CTE programs at Goose Creek prepare students for life after high school—whether it's going to college or beginning a career.



Goose Creek CISD's Career and Technical Education Department hosted its first Career Night on March 20 at Robert E. Lee High School. [Photo Gallery](#)

Students are prepared to obtain certifications qualifying them to work in challenging jobs right out of high school. Students can also earn college credit while in high school through the CTE program.

The Stuart Career Center houses the career classes that are beyond the scope of those offered at the three high schools. Students are bused to the center on YMCA Drive for two hour classes which include 1st and 2nd year: Automotive Technology, ATV Repair, Business Management, Collision Repair and Refinishing, Computer Maintenance Technology, Culinary Arts, Mill and Cabinetmaking, Robotics, Greenhouse Production, Landscape Design, Meat Processing, Microsoft Applications II, and Welding.

College credit programs, offered in partnership with Lee College, include Process Technology, CISCO, Instrumentation, Pipefitting, Electrical Technology, Auto Body Repair, Construction Engineering, and Administrative Specialist Technology.

Students are provided transportation to and from Lee College and earn high school credit concurrent with college credit—all while having tuition and books paid for by GCCISD.

"States, including Texas, are focusing on improving high schools as national studies and business leaders claim that students are graduating ill prepared for the work force. We share their concern, and know that CTE in Goose Creek is expanding its curriculum to meet the realities of the 21st century," said Dr. Toby York, Goose Creek CISD superintendent.

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Physical Address:  
Goose Creek Consolidated  
Independent School District  
4544 Interstate 10 East  
Baytown, Texas 77521  
281.420.4800

Mailing Address:  
Goose Creek Consolidated  
Independent School District  
P.O. Box 30  
Baytown, Texas 77522  
281.420.4800

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