



GOOSE CREEK

CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Record attendance for District's annual College Night

The thought of going to college is an exciting, yet sometimes scary one. Navigating through important topics like the admissions process, deadlines and financial aid can be confusing for high school students and their families.

Thankfully, there are events like the annual Goose Creek CISD College Night that caters to the needs of those who are college bound or hope to be soon.

Now in its fourth year, the event took place on Wednesday, November 28 when more than 1,500 students and parents — the most ever — gathered at Goose Creek Memorial High School for a unique opportunity to visit with college and university representatives all under one roof.

"Postsecondary access to all students is a major goal for Goose Creek CISD," said Dr. Salvador Cavazos, Goose Creek CISD Superintendent. "We start talking to students about college and careers at the elementary level. Our District is committed to preparing students for postsecondary education after high school by emphasizing rigor and relevance in the classroom curriculum.

"We want to make sure students are prepared to handle the real challenges that face them as they leave high school," Dr. Cavazos said. "Whether they choose two-year, four-year university, vocational training, military or go straight into the work force, they need to be equipped to compete in an ever changing society."

As has been the case in recent years, the turnout for College Night gets larger every year.

"It was amazing to see such a great turnout of students and parents and to see how focused they were on gaining information from the colleges and universities," said Janci Alexander-Alfaro, Goose Creek CISD Director of Guidance and Counseling. "Preparing for college is overwhelming to say the least, and College Night provided much needed answers to questions that will give parents and students a head start in the planning to make sure they get into college."

The district's annual College Night provides opportunities for all Goose Creek CISD students, parents, grandparents and friends to have one-on-one conversations with representatives from colleges, technical schools and military organizations at one time and in one location.

The event is a treasure trove of information regarding college access, financial aid, dual enrollment and more.

"It was really impressive to see all the college representatives," said Sterling High School senior Kirsten Smith. "And many of the colleges were waiving application fees to encourage students to apply."



[Photo Gallery](#)

This year, more than 65 institutions of high learning were represented at College Night.

Furthermore, high school counselors, scholarship secretaries, and Communities in Schools all were stationed at tables to help answer questions and provide student and parent information.

"It was great seeing so many students and parents at College Night," said Bruce Davis, Lee High School principal. "I heard many positive comments, and everyone was able to gather valuable information."

"Our goal at Lee High School is to light the fire within our students, and College Night helps fuel this flame," added Matt Bolinger, academic dean at Lee.

Goose Creek Memorial High School's "Main Street" provided the perfect location for the ever-growing crowd.

College Night has grown so much in recent years that the commons at both Sterling and Lee high schools were no longer large enough to accommodate the crowds.

"College Night was a huge success. It was a great event for the families of the Baytown and Highlands communities. I look forward to finding out where our students choose to attend college," said Michael Wahl, Goose Creek Memorial High School principal.

For more information regarding college access, financial aid, dual enrollment and more, contact Mrs. Alexander-Alfaro at 281-420-1591 or check out the district's website at www.gccisd.net.

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