

## Career Readiness

**Career Readiness** enhances career development knowledge for all middle and high school students by integrating relevant, real-world experience into academics. The department contributes to a student's application of academic knowledge, as well as higher-order reasoning, problem-solving skills, employability and work-related skills, and the occupation-specific skills necessary not only to have financial independence, but also to be a contributing member of society.

### What does Career Readiness support?

#### Barbara Jordan Career Center

**Barbara Jordan Career Center** provides opportunities for students at nine area campuses to pursue an accelerated CTE pathway during half-days throughout the week over a two-year period while remaining at their home campus to complete academic graduation requirements during their last two years of high school.



Barbara Jordan Center for Careers student receives hands-on, real-world work experience in high school.

#### Career Counseling

**Career Counseling** helps HISD students discover their interests and passions, making a link to future careers. CTE advisors work one-on-one with students and in groups to explore different career options, unpacking the qualifications and education required to work in a variety of fields. In addition, CTE advisors develop students' soft skills, ensuring that when interviews take place, students are competitive career applicants.

#### Career & Technical Education (CTE)

**CTE** offers **programs of study** in all sixteen career clusters comprised of pathways of coherent sequences of rigorous CTE courses designed to foster and develop career interests and skills. Students are able to earn their endorsement for graduation as well as an **industry-based certification or licensure**.

- **CTE Advisors** provide support and guidance to students in exploring careers by: developing career interests, providing tangible career-focused experiences, and assisting students with career development essentials such as resume-writing and honing interview skills.
- **Career-Ready Wagon** fosters career exploration for students from Pre-K to 5th grade. Students are exposed to a variety of careers and fields through hands-on lessons and experiences.
- **Dual Credit (Workforce)** is a collaboration with local colleges allowing students to graduate from high school with industry certifications and FREE college credit. This collaboration prepares students to enter the workforce immediately after high school with the valuable skills employers demand.
- CTE content-specific **professional development** opportunities are provided to CTE teachers, focusing on differentiation in classroom instruction, project-based learning, and more.
- Through our **business partnerships**, students are able to participate in internships and work-based learning. **Work-based learning opportunities** allow CTE students to obtain hands-on experience in relevant industries.
- **Advisory Council** is comprised of industry leaders who partner with our campuses providing students with resources and exposure to workforce opportunities.

#### HISD Abroad

**HISD Abroad** partners with international organizations to expand equity of access for students to study abroad, participate in exclusive international virtual exchanges, and develop a personalized global network of emerging professionals. Students are also able to explore global college and career opportunities through virtual international internships or by remotely attending college courses offered at universities abroad.

Using The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals as a framework for civic action, these *invisible learning opportunities* are underscored by community-impact pedagogy designed to foster global competence through a form of civic engagement that teaches students to approach local issues in their community through global frames of reference.

#### Houston Academy of Computer Science

**The Houston Academy of Computer Science (HACS)** is a soon-to-be Houston ISD school specifically focused on preparing students for a career in the Information Technology sector. HACS will be the Houston region's first-ever grade 6-12 school for computer science, and will specialize in the areas of computational thinking as well as artificial intelligence. HACS expects to enroll its first class in the Fall of 2020.

#### JROTC

**JROTC** works to instill the values of citizenship, service to the United States, personal responsibility, and a sense of accomplishment in all HISD JROTC students. The study of ethics, citizenship, communications, leadership, and the life skills designed to prepare students to actively participate in society are at the core of the program. Student-centered curriculum focusing on character-building and civic responsibility is administered in every JROTC classroom.

#### "When I Grow Up" Career Expo

**"When I Grow Up" (WIGU)** is CTE's signature hands-on, real-world extravaganza, bringing together 5,000+ people within the city of Houston to experience what students learn daily.



Student learns about firefighting at the "When I Grow Up" Career Expo.