

CTE programs grow, offer student opportunities

BY SHEILA MILLER

Public Information Officer for the Redmond School District

When you walk into Dan Kernion's classroom at Redmond High School, it's clear something interesting is happening on this side of the school.

Kernion, who teaches computer-aided drafting, manufacturing and welding, has desks built by his welding students. Walls are lined with signs, metal and wooden, as well as shelves with dominoes, cribbage boards and other creations students made in class. And yes, there's a full-suspension go-kart back in the shop — a student built that, too.

Welcome to career technical education in the Redmond School District. The district offers a robust set of CTE classes at both Redmond and Ridgeview high schools, and that programming continues to develop. The goal is to provide students with real-world, relevant experience that will prepare them for the workforce, while still engaging in a full academic course load. It's working, as our students are

being hired straight out of high school into lucrative careers and heading into college programs ahead of other students.

Hands-on training

At Ridgeview High, CTE classes include business, computer science and engineering, as well as a culinary program, video production and health sciences. Students can leave Ridgeview with a certified nursing assistant license, among other benefits.

At Redmond High, CTE classes include business and computer science, as well as an automotive program, construction and manufacturing classes and robust agriculture and floral coursework.

Students in the Redmond School District also participate in SkillsUSA, which is a CTE competition for high school students in more than 130 disciplines, from welding to culinary and everything in between.

"These industries need skilled workers," Kernion said. "We're teaching these kids work ethic, the importance of attitude. Skills can be learned

on the job — and we're teaching those here, too — but those soft skills are what we really try to hammer home."

The programs also teach much more — bravery, for a start. Some kids enter the programs nervous to try their hand in the automotive shop or taking apart a computer, then discover that's where they feel most at home. And even if the students don't end up going into a career based on their experiences in CTE classes, they're still learning a lot.

For example, Kernion mentioned his students are often doing very high-level math in his classes, and that can translate to their performance in more traditional academic classes.

Good business sense

Hannah Osborn, who teaches business classes like graphic design, marketing, entrepreneurship and business communications to about 200 students at Redmond High, agreed.

"Even if they're not going to go into business, it's helpful to see how it all works," she said. "Seeing how the sausage is



nameline

made can be really helpful. And having business skills is so important — no matter what you do with your life, everything is a business."

Projects in her classes include designing the school's spirit T-shirts, building websites and social media campaigns, and creating and running their own businesses. At one point, the entrepreneurship class worked with the welding class to develop and implement businesses together.

Osborn sees opportunity to teach business skills in unlikely places — especially yearbook class. "This is a \$30,000 business entrusted entirely to students," she said. "I think people forget that."

The skills learned in these CTE classrooms can lead to high-paying skill jobs — like engineering and manufacturing gigs. And the district benefits from industry partners, some of whom hire students during the summer, others im-

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mediately after graduation or for internships.

Rob Spear, who teaches computer science and welding, said companies have approached him with promises of jobs for students who succeed in his courses. "There are just so many jobs," he said. "Businesses need and want these skills, and we can provide a pathway for that. We are trying to listen to what those businesses say and give it to our kids before they're even out of high school."

The RHS computer science program continues to develop, with classes on both hardware and software and plans to add

high-level coding and networking courses. The ultimate goal, Spear said, is to implement a tiered program that begins in kindergarten.

Kernion hopes to get a metrology program — the scientific study of measurement — off the ground at Redmond High in the coming years. What he's sure of is that these programs are going to continue to expand and be important to our students.

"These students definitely learn valuable skills," he said. "These industries are expanding massively, and that's why our programs are growing again."

Free vaccination clinic to be held at expo center

Clinic begins Tuesday for everyone 5 years old and up

Bulletin staff report

A free drive-thru for COVID-19 vaccines will be available for anyone 5 or older starting Tuesday at the Deschutes County Fair & Expo Center in Redmond.

The vaccine clinic, which is hosted by Deschutes County Health Services and the Oregon Health Authority, will be open Monday through Sunday from noon to 7 p.m., ac-

ording to an announcement from Deschutes County.

Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines will be available, including booster doses for those who qualify.

Booster doses are available for anyone 18 or older who received Pfizer or Moderna shots at least six months ago or a Johnson & Johnson vaccine at least two months ago, according to Deschutes County.

No appointment or insurance is needed.

Residents should bring vaccination records to the fair-

grounds if they have already received a COVID-19 vaccination.

For more information about vaccination clinics in

Deschutes County, visit www.deschutes.org/covid19vaccine or call 541-699-5109 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

WORSHIP DIRECTORY

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Highland Baptist Church 3100 SW Highland Ave., Redmond 541-548-4161 Barry Campbell, Lead Pastor	Seventh Day Adventist 945 W. Glacier Ave., Redmond, OR 541-923-0301 Sabbath School 9:30 am Worship 10:45 am
Sunday Worship Services: Blended - 8 & 9 am Contemporary - 10:30 am (Worship Center) hbc Español - 10:30 am Acoustic - 6 pm (Youth Room)	Roman Catholic St Thomas Roman Catholic Church 1720 NW 19th Street Redmond, Oregon 97756 541-923-3390 Father Todd Unger, Pastor
Living Nativity Experience the first Christmas Dec. 10 & 11 5-7 pm (recurring outdoors every 20 minutes)	Mass Schedule: Weekdays 8:00 am (Except Wednesdays) Wednesday 6:00 pm Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm First Saturday 8:00 am (English)
How can hbc pray for you? prayer@hbcredmond.org For more information and online services visit us at www.hbcredmond.org	Sunday 8:00 am, 10:00 am (English) 12:00 noon (Spanish) Confessions on Wednesdays From 5:00 to 5:45 pm and on Saturdays From 3:00 to 4:30 pm
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