

Education

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Brook Rich, the director of CTE and science, technology, engineering, and mathematics at High Desert Education Service District, estimates that CTE programs across Central Oregon schools have grown by 30% over the past five years.

Rich said the expansion of programs regionally and across the country is part of a federal push, and because schools have seen a statewide infusion of funds supporting the programs. It's a comeback after many programs throughout the country and regionally were gutted during the Great Recession, she said.

Rich coordinates with schools to develop programs, a process that involves looking at high-demand career sectors in the region. The fastest growing job sectors in Central Oregon are currently health care, manufacturing, construction and technology, she said.

Brian Cook, the principal of Madras High School, said a number of the school's CTE programs that were dismantled during the recession were restored by 2015.



Several of the career technical education modules that allow students an opportunity for hands-on learning in construction at Crook County High School.

Graduation rates have since skyrocketed.

In the 2015-16 school year, the Madras High graduation rate was 60% and grew to 91% by 2018-19. The graduation rate for Native American students was 39% in 2015-16 and shot up to 93% in 2018-19.

"CTE definitely plays a large

role in graduation rates for all of our students because they're engaged," Cook said. "They're doing something they love and they come to school to do that."

"They see, 'I'm doing something I love, and this can transition into something for me in the future.'"

At Caldera High School,

Bend-La Pine Schools' newest campus, which opened earlier this month, CTE classrooms were intentionally placed by the entrance so students could pique their interest in the various programs including health sciences, engineering and design, construction, entrepreneurship and the arts.

Ryan Brennecke/The Bulletin

Bekki Tucker, a business teacher at the high school, said students are encouraged to take plenty of elective classes in their first year to explore different options.

"It's a great way for kids to explore rather than tie them down to a specific pathway early on in high school," she said. "This way they can find their passion."

"A lot of my students go to college. It's just showing kids that there's other pathways besides college. There are trade schools. There are technical programs that you can go to."

Jeff Baisch, a business teacher at La Pine High School, offers three business tracks for students including a hospitality, tourism and recreation track. He has partnered with Sunriver Resort to connect students to summer jobs, which for many students has turned into permanent employment after graduation.

"If we're looking for a career that has good upward mobility for a student that isn't going to go to a four-year, working in hospitality, tourism, recreation in Central Oregon is really a feasible option," Baisch said.

Baisch also has a finance track that includes a personal

finance class, an introduction into banking and finance class and advanced placement economics.

He has partnered with Mid Oregon Credit Union, which employs and provides students with industry training and installed a student-run credit union on campus.

Eden Hirshon-Stahl, a freshman at Montana State University majoring in accounting, took Baisch's hospitality, tourism, recreation and finance tracks throughout her time at La Pine High School. She also worked at the student-run credit union.

Hirshon-Stahl said the classes made it clear that she wanted to pursue a career in accounting, and that the process gave her a sense of accomplishment.

"I didn't know if I wanted to go to community college or if I wanted to go to a four-year," she said. "But once I did start, I realized that higher education, a four-year, is better for me and better for what I wanted to go into."

"It helped me choose and really impacted my life in how my path has gone so far."

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Biden looks to turn page on 20 years of war in UN address

BY AAMER MADHANI AND JOSH BOAK
Associated Press

NEW YORK — President Joe Biden began his first visit to the U.N. General Assembly ready to make the case to world leaders that after closing the book on 20 years of war, the U.S. aims to rally allies and adversaries to work together on a slew of crises, including the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change and trade and economics.

The president faced a healthy measure of skepticism when he arrived in New York on Monday to start a week of high-level diplomacy. The opening months of his presidency have included a series of difficult moments with friendly nations that were expecting greater cooperation from Biden following four years of Donald Trump's "America first" approach to foreign policy.

To that end, soon after arriving in New York Monday evening, the president's first stop was to meet with U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres to offer endorsements for the body's relevance and multilateral coordination.

Biden, in brief remarks at the start of the meeting, said the assembly's commitment to achieving "prosperity, peace and security for everyone" was as important as ever with the coronavirus pandemic and climate change casting large shadows around the globe.

"The vision of the United Nations has never been short on ambition, any more than our Constitution," Biden said.

But eight months into his presidency, Biden has been out of sync with allies on the chaotic ending to the U.S. war in Afghanistan. He has faced differences over how to go about sharing coronavirus vaccines with the developing world and

over pandemic travel restrictions. And there are questions about the best way to respond to military and economic moves by China.

Biden also finds himself in the midst of a fresh diplomatic spat with France, the United States' oldest ally, after announcing plans — along with Britain — to equip Australia with nuclear-powered submarines. The move is expected to give Australia improved capabilities to patrol the Pacific amid growing concern about the Chinese military's increasingly aggressive tactics, but it upended a French defense contract worth at least \$66 billion to sell diesel-powered submarines to Australia.

French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian said Monday there's a "crisis of trust" with the U.S. as a result of the episode.

Ahead of Biden's arrival, EU Council President Charles

Michel strongly criticized the Biden administration for leaving Europe "out of the game in the Indo-Pacific region" and ignoring the underlying elements of the trans-Atlantic alliance — transparency and loyalty — in the withdrawal from Afghanistan and the announcement of the U.S.-U.K.-Australia alliance.

Despite such differences, Biden is looking to use his Tuesday address to the General Assembly as well as a series of one-on-one and larger meetings with world leaders this week to make the case for American leadership on the world stage.

"There are points of dis-

agreement, including when we have disagreed with the decisions other countries are making, the decision points of when countries have disagreed with the decisions we're making," White House press secretary Jen Psaki said. "But the larger point here, and what you'll hear the president talk about tomorrow, is that we are committed to those alliances, and that always requires work from every president, from every global leader."

In an interview ahead of his meeting with Biden, Guterres told The Associated Press that he was concerned about the "completely dysfunctional" U.S.-China relationship and

that it could lead to a new cold war. Psaki said the administration disagreed with the assessment, adding that the U.S.-China relationship was "one not of conflict but of competition."

In his address Tuesday, Biden plans to put a heavy emphasis on the need for the world leaders to work together on the COVID-19 pandemic, meeting past obligations to address climate change, the need to head off emerging technology issues and firming up rules of the road on trade matters, White House officials said.

Biden is expected to release new plans to assist the global vaccination effort.

Angel

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He vehemently turned down offers of an attorney to assist in his defense.

"Guilty is guilty. I don't need anybody to help me say it," Angel told the court, appearing by video from the Deschutes County jail.

Angel remained Monday in jail on \$500,000 bail, and he is scheduled to return to court Sept. 27. Sykora noted Angel would again be offered an attorney at that time.

"I'm not going to leave this room I'm in right now," Angel said from the jail. "They'd better make sure I stay here."

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BendBulletin.com/Cute-Pets

Register for the contest and upload your favorite pet photo during the nomination round September 15 through October 3.

Our readers will vote for their favorites October 8 - November 4.

Twelve winning entries will be announced after the voting round and be featured in our 2022 Cutest Pets Calendar on sale this November.

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