

Parents Should Know about Career and Technology Education

1. Career and Technology Education (CTE) – it's more than a name change!

Career and Technology Education (formerly vocational education) gives students a head start on college and careers in high-skill, high-wage and high-demand occupations organized in ten different Career Clusters including programs in Information Technology, Architecture & Construction, Health Science, Business, Management & Administration, Transportation, Pre-engineering and more.

2. CTE is for the career and college bound.

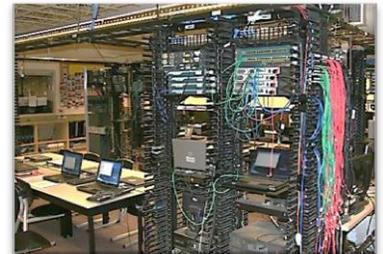
In today's workplace, continued education and training is a given. CTE programs are usually a sequence of four or five high school courses taken in addition to the academic core classes of math, science, English, and social studies. Students completing both the academic requirements and a CTE program have the advantage of graduating from high school prepared for college and the workplace.

3. CTE students are able to earn college credits and certifications.

To give students an extra advantage after earning their diplomas. It's true! Most of the 40+ CTE programs offered in the Bellevue School District provide students with an opportunity to earn college credit, industry-recognized certifications or both. As an added bonus, nearly every CTE program connects to a similar community college program which makes it possible for students to make the transition from high school to college.

4. Students apply what they learn in academic classes.

This applied learning increases retention and understanding! For example, in the Pre-engineering program, **Project Lead The Way**, students apply skills learned in higher level math courses to real world engineering projects, under the guidance of professional engineers/mentors.



CISCO Lab at
Newport High

5. Instructors are industry professionals teaching with up-to-date equipment and technology.

CTE teachers have worked in their fields as part of their certification. Industry advisory boards help schools design and equip learning labs. For example, Culinary Arts students work in commercial kitchens; CISCO (Computer networking) students use state-of-the-art networking software, and Automotive Technician students hone their skills using tools, equipment and curriculum recommended by The National Automotive Training and Education Foundation (NATEF).



Auto Tech Lab at
Bellevue High

6. Parents and students can save money!

High school is the only time individuals can obtain education focused on career preparation without writing a tuition check! High school students can earn industry certification in Microsoft Office IT Academy Core, Expert, and SharePoint. CTE students can also save money on college tuition by earning college credit through Tech Prep for approximately \$40.00 a year for as many courses as they can complete within a school year. Students completing CTE programs obtain knowledge and skills that can help them achieve better paying jobs while they are attending college.

7. Programs are designed for the future.

Washington industries and businesses partner with local school districts, community colleges and the Washington State Department of Education to create programs of study that prepare students with the knowledge and skills required for current and future careers in today's global economy.



8. Internships and work-based learning opportunities provide "real world" work experiences and the prospect of developing a professional network.

CTE programs frequently include a final internship or work-based learning experience which helps students develop a network of co-workers and managers who may also become valuable references.

9. Leadership and interpersonal skills are expanded.

Students enrolled in CTE programs can join local chapters of national student organizations such as Skills USA, DECA, FBLA, FCCLA and other state and national career competitions builds confidence as students demonstrate their skills and knowledge.



10. To enroll your teen or to learn more about CTE in your community, contact your child's school counselor or the CTE Director for the district.

The Bellevue School District's mission is to provide all students with an exemplary college preparatory education so they can succeed in college, career and life.

Bellevue School District

12111 NE 1st Street
Bellevue, WA 98005

P.O. Box 90010
Bellevue, WA 98009-9010

Phone: 425-456-4181
Fax: 425-456-4187

www.bsd405.org/cte

- Q. Estelle Collins**, *Director*
- Marilyn Henselman**, *Curriculum Developer*
- Elaine Caulfield**, *Coordinator*
- Kathy Carpenter**, *Secretary*
- Joel Gest**, *Technology Assistant*
- Sharon Kautz**, *Executive Director*
- Eva Collins**, *Assistant Superintendent*
- Dr. Tim Mills**, *Superintendent*

