

MAY 16 BOND UPDATE

Career & Technical Education



Hello Bulldog Families,

In this bond update, I want to discuss Career & Technical Education, often called CTE.

The demand for CTE is rising.

Once upon a time, vocational classes - what most of us used to call "shop class" - were an after-thought in junior high and high schools. But, today, the demand for students to have a career and technical education - either before entering the workforce or before entering college - is at the forefront.

That's why a new CTE Center is part of the proposed bond plan. Our district has a mission to make sure every student is prepared for college or a career. The input we've received from students, teachers and the community is that an up-to-date CTE facility and program must be part of the equation. Another step the school board has taken toward this goal is the addition of an ag sciences teacher, a decision that was based on overwhelming student interest in ag sciences courses.

Our current shop space is outdated.



Our current shop space was built in 1977. As the demand for CTE classes has grown, we have outgrown the space. We are also combatting challenges that come with an aging facility - such as proper ventilation and flooding. *Scan the QR code to see the space and learn more.*

CTE benefits every student.

Studies show that CTE isn't just for students who are immediately entering the job market. The benefits extend to every student, including:

- **Provides all students with hands-on learning.** This type of learning is an important option for students who thrive best by learning while doing, in addition to students who need to be challenged outside of the traditional classroom setting.
- **Gives college-bound students a critical foundation.** When students who gain real-world training in their areas of interest - such as science and engineering - it helps set the stage for them to enter college with a greater understanding of the subject matter and an edge in their industry.
- **Creates flexibility so students have options later in life.** Having the experience that CTE provides in their back pocket, provides both high school and college graduates with options in case their interests or the job market changes down the road.

I hope you'll plan to join us at our next Community Town Hall conversation on Thursday, April 20, to learn more. The details are at www.USD348.com/bond. Again, as you review this information, please don't hesitate to contact me personally with any questions at mdodge@usd348.com or 785-594-2721.

Mark Dodge
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