Career and Technical Education

Students Advocate for CTE: Success Stories

Career and Technical Education (CTE) provides all students access to high-quality, rigorous career-focused programs that result in attainment of credentials with labor market value. Our story includes the success of students across the state and how they have been positively affected by participation in CTE.

The following CTE student success stories are categorized by Utah State Board of Education Board Member district.

DISTRICT	BOARD MEMBER	STUDENT – HIGH SCHOOL	
1	Jennie Earl	Mariana Vega – Box Elder Sidney Gibson – Freemont	Talon Cox – Sky View Trenden Wikerson – Morgan
2	Scott Hansen	Abril Canales – UT Virtual Acad. Erandeny Mendoza – Roy	Jacob Bush – Weber Rogerson – Mountain
3	Laurieann Thorpe	Hannah Weston – Tooele Jamie Anderson – Hunter	Kayleigh Burge – Stansbury Rylan Taylor – Stansbury
4	Jennifer Graviet	Alexander Johnson – Clearfield Caitlyn Atkinson – Bonneville	Hannah Nuetzman – Syracuse Kaila Lemons – Northridge
5	Laura Belnap	Eric Manzanares - Mountain Lana Bangerter – Viewmont	Landon Becker – Davis Savannah West – Woods Cross
6	Brittney Cummins	Lilyana Hall – Kearns Lisbeth Alcala – Taylorsville	Madalynn Breeze – Kearns Omar Sanchez – Granger
7	Carol Lear	Alicia Vo – West Hannah Terry – West	Mackenze Madrid – Highland
8	Janet Cannon	Caden Thomas – Murray Jacob Huff – Cottonwood	LaDonna Nichols – Vanguard Ac Selena Pham – Olympus
9	Cindy Davis	Hannah Jensen – American Fork Kiera Green – Pleasant Grove	Lynzie Weakley – Pleasant Grove Shaquel Remund – Skyridge
10	Shawn Newell	Adison Wilko – Brighton Courtney Smith – Corner Canyon	Jenna Warby – Alta Marcus Croston – Corner Canyon
11	Michael Haynes	Annalis Nielson – Westlake Jonathan Dailey – Riverton	Kylee Larsen – Riverton Tyllar Hubbard – Herriman
12	Mark Marsh	Camile Rhoades – Wasatch Dylan Betts – Uintah	Kaylee Marchant – South Summit Luke Chatwin – Timpanogos
13	Scott Neilson	Austin Kinross – Springville Madison Clark – Timpview	Miguel Lopez – Provo Samantha Crockett – SpanishFork
14	Mark Huntsman	Allison Nielsen – Payson David Fullmer – Monticello	Nadine Harvey – Grand County Shayla Squires – Richfield
15	Michelle Boulter	Bronté Hadlock – Desert Hills Kelsey Staheli – Enterprise	Reagan Housley – Pine View Ryen Hinton – Desert Hills

DISTRICT 1: Jennie Earl

MARIANA VEGA, a graduate of Box Elder High School
Future Zoologist

Mariana Vega received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Bridgerland Technical College to study and train to become certified as a veterinarian technician. Mariana attributes her high school educational experiences and participation in CTE as giving her focus to reach her goals.

"The CTE courses have helped me focus, get experience, and gain an understanding of the dedication and work required to obtain my goal of becoming a zoo technician. CTE classes aren't always easy and at times they may be a little bit of a struggle, but I don't let that stop me. These classes have also helped me make the right choice to continue my education in the path of animal science.

"My CTE teachers have worked extremely hard to continually push and challenge me to constantly build upon my knowledge and the skills necessary to succeed. They have helped me in any way they can, which has made my experience easier and helped me to learn and develop skills," said Mariana.

SIDNEY GIBSON, a graduate of Fremont High School
Future Cosmetologist

Sidney Gibson participated in Career and Technical Education and focused on the CTE Cosmetology/Barbering Pathway while in high school. She received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Ogden-Weber Technical College where she will further her studies in the field of cosmetology. Sidney enjoyed the hands-on learning that each CTE class provided.

"Throughout junior high and high school I had the chance to take multiple CTE classes. Besides art, these have been some of my favorite classes. A useful tool that all of my CTE classes taught me, which may not be as expected, is the tool of how I learn best. I learned that sitting through science lectures I didn't excel as well as [when] I was in a hands-on class where I could apply myself to the material. I took a variety of classes which gave me different experiences to help me gauge if it were something I would enjoy doing for my future. I found a few classes I could see myself enjoying as a lifetime career, but in the end I strongly feel that cosmetology is the direction I want to go," said Sidney.

DISTRICT 1: Jennie Earl (continued)

TALON COX, a graduate of Sky View High School
Future Personal Trainer

Talon Cox participated in a CTE Internship at FreeMotion Fitness in the field of personal training. During his internship Talon learned how to help clients achieve their personal goals by outlining a detailed fitness plan. Through effective time management and communication Talon developed the skills to further his goal of becoming a personal trainer.

"Because of this experience at FreeMotion Fitness, I have been motivated to continue on this career path of helping people to better their physical condition. I have been fortunate to see many different ways that trainers motivate their clients and develop workouts for specific needs. I am pursuing a career in personal and team training, so this experience has really opened my eyes to the many possibilities in the training community, and greatly improved my knowledge and understanding of how a business should be run. During this internship I developed skills in communicating with clients, time management, putting workout [plans] together, and monitoring the well-being of clients.

"As I head to college I will be looking at other opportunities to advance my understanding as well as knowledge of the training world. I will be taking classes that will teach me more about how the body works and what steps should be taken to help someone achieve their personal physical goals," said Talon.

TRENDEN WILKERSON, a graduate of Morgan High School
Future Graphic Designer

Trenden Wilkerson completed the CTE Business Administrative and Technical Support Pathway and received the CTE Secondary Pathway Completer Recognition Award from Morgan High School. Trenden appreciated the guidance of his business teacher, Mr. Fuller, who encouraged him to pursue his goals.

"Completing a CTE Pathway has opened my interests. By taking these classes I have been able to choose a career I would like to pursue. I have taken almost all of the classes Mr. Fuller offers in the high school. That has been one of the most influential things in the CTE program, when you're able to have a good teacher that can help you so much in finding your career path. From taking these classes and completing this Pathway I have found that I will be pursuing a career in web design and graphic design." said Trenden.

DISTRICT 2: Scott Hansen

ABRIL CANALES, a graduate of Utah Virtual Academy
Future IT Technician

Abril Canales wants to be part of the growing and advancing tech industry. She is working on becoming certified in A+, Networking+, and Security+. Abril received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Ogden-Weber Technical College to advance her studies in information technology

"I want to thrive and succeed in the IT industry. I want to build a career in which I can utilize the skills I learned and want a career that will allow me to continue learning throughout my life. CTE courses pointed me in the right direction for my life after high school. They allowed me to discern what I wanted from a career. CTE administered an abundance of beneficial skills needed to succeed in a college environment such as self-motivation, organization, and problem solving. CTE courses provided me with a chance to really think about what I wanted to study in college by bringing to light my likes and dislikes, said Abril."

CADE ROGERSON, a graduate of Mountain High School
Future Diesel Mechanic

After completing the diesel program at Davis Technical College, Cade plans to join the military as mechanic. While in high school, Cade was a member of DECA where he learned the value of teamwork and communication. Cade received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Davis Technical College to pursue his goal of becoming a diesel mechanic.

"After graduating from high school and completing the diesel program at Davis Tech I want to join the military as a mechanic. I have had this dream for as long as I can remember. I know that by gaining further education I can become a contributing member of society, take care of myself, and a future family. I love to fix things and the CTE classes I took gave me a better understanding on how to do that. I feel proud of myself when I can figure out the problem with my car and fix it all by myself. I wouldn't know how to do this if I hadn't taken the CTE classes that I did," said Cade.

DISTRICT 2: Scott Hansen (continued)

ERANDENY MENDOZA, a graduate of Roy High School
Future Dental Assistant

Erandeny Mendoza has the goal is to become a dental assistant. She looks forward to utilizing the skills she developed through the CTE program in her future career. Erandeny received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Ogden-Weber Technical College to continue her studies as a dental assistant.

"College is very important to me. I believe that education is continuous and a constant pursuit in life. My goal is to finish the Dental Hygiene program at Weber State University. Not only with a secular perspective but with a civil responsibility of serving. My plan for employment after training is to put my skills to work. I know I am capable, but experience is necessary. Two things that are important to me, and always need to be together, is learning and service. This will give me the experience that will give me a better occupation. The CTE Pathway I chose was in Health Science Education. It opened the curiosity of a well-being of a human," said Erandeny.

JACOB BUSH, a graduate of Weber High School
Future Software Developer

Jacob Bush was the FBLA chapter vice president at Weber High School and is proud that their chapter won best overall at the state FBLA regional competition. Throughout high school Jacob was very involved in CTE and received several CTE Skill Certificates. Jacob received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Ogden-Weber Technical College to continue his studies in computer science.

"I am fortunate to have had the opportunity to take so many courses geared towards the working world from the CTE program. From my CTE courses I gleaned that I really like the feel of the professional world. It is so much fun taking hands-on courses that prepare students for so much more than the next test. These classes were an enjoyable outlet for thought and creativity. Teachers shared with students their knowledge and passion for their subject matter, which made me feel excited to be a part of their classroom. There has been a lot of growth in my knowledge of technology from the classes I have taken," said Jacob.

DISTRICT 3: Laurieann Thorpe

HANNAH WESTON, a graduate of Tooele High School
Future Dental Hygienist

Hannah Weston received the CTE Pathway Completer Recognition Award in the Dental Pathway. She also received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Salt Lake Community College to further her studies in dental hygiene.

"While in high school, I completed a dental assistant [course] through CTE in hopes to eventually become a dental hygienist. My experience in the CTE Dental Pathway has helped me to gain the basic knowledge and skills that will help me to obtain an entry level position in a dental office. I wanted to learn a new skill so when I got out of high school I would be able to better myself and the world one-step at a time," said Hannah.

JAMIE ANDERSON, a graduate of Hunter High School
Future Police Officer

Jamie Anderson looks forward to a career as a police officer. In high school she focused on the CTE Protective Services Pathway, where she took courses that kept her on track to achieve her goal, while at the same time earning concurrent enrollment credit. Jamie received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Salt Lake Community College to further her studies in law enforcement.

"Who would have thought that a childhood beauty queen, model, and dancer would grow up and want to be in law enforcement? Well, I do and when I turn 21 I will be eligible to apply to serve and protect my community. Until then, I am dedicating the next few years of my life to educating and preparing myself to be ready when that day comes.

"The CTE program provided me with the opportunity to prepare myself for this career by giving me the chance to learn and gain knowledge of the criminal justice field. I had many opportunities to have hands-on training and attend field trips that supported me with the education I need to choose a career that I am truly passionate about.

"Starting my senior year, I chose to focus on the Skilled and Technical Sciences Education Protective Services Pathway. I found this beneficial for many reasons. The Pathway guided me towards taking courses that kept me on track, and were valuable for the career I chose, while being able to earn concurrent enrollment credit," said Jamie.

DISTRICT 3: Linda Hansen (continued)

KAYLEIGH BURGE, a graduate of Stansbury High School
Future Cosmetologist

Kayleigh Burge plans to complete the Cosmetology/Barbering program at Tooele Technical College. After receiving her cosmetology license she plans to one day open her own salon. She looks forward to being a successful business woman and entrepreneur. Kayleigh received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Tooele Technical College where she will complete her cosmetology training.

"To say that the high school CTE Cosmetology/Barbering Pathway has saved me a lot of time and money is a huge understatement. I have been able to accumulate approximately half of the 1,600 hours necessary for my Utah cosmetology license while still in high school, and at an extremely low cost. Being able to transfer those CTE hours seamlessly to the Tooele Technical College Cosmetology/Barbering program will allow me to complete my cosmetology training in half the time and at approximately half the price, than if I would have waited to do the program after high school graduation.

"Being able to have my cosmetology training count for 30 credit hours toward an AAS in general technology is another huge benefit that will save me two semesters in college and two semesters of tuition. Thanks to CTE I will be able to earn an AAS in half the time and at half the cost. CTE has been an awesome experience for me and a huge financial benefit," said Kayleigh.

RYLAN MARC TAYLOR, a graduate of Stansbury High School
Future Software Developer/Programmer

Rylan Taylor took numerous Information Technology Education courses while in high school where he learned how computers work independently as well as within a larger work environment. He is fascinated by technology and has a passion for computer technology. Rylan received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Utah Valley University to continue his studies in information technology.

"*I Love Technology* are not just the lyrics from the movie Napoleon Dynamite, it is really the core of who I am and where I want to be. During my time as a student at Stansbury High School I had the opportunity to participate in as many classes in the CTE program as could fit into my schedule, while still meeting the 'core' educational requirements. I have gained a great appreciation for the integration of mathematics in the technology sphere, specifically when it comes to various forms and languages of programming.

"I am looking forward to the opportunity to take the foundational education I have received as a high school student, especially the CTE offerings, and using that as a starting point to achieve a career in the Information Technology sector. The future is technology; it is amazing to watch it advance and grow at a rate that is almost incomprehensible. *I Love Technology* and want to help be a driving force in the changes technology has for the future," said Rylan.

DISTRICT 4: Jennifer Graviet

ALEXANDER JOHNSON, a graduate of Clearfield High School
Future Marketing Professional

Alexander Johnson received the CTE Secondary Pathway Completer Recognition Award after completing 3.0 credits in the CTE Business and Marketing Pathway.

"I started taking business classes my sophomore year of high school and since then I've taken two CTE classes each year. I found that the information I was learning I could actually [apply] in the real-world. I could understand what the accountants were discussing at my work and watched how airline prices fluctuated during on and off season. I felt that I was learning information that was not only important but also applicable to my life.

"I plan on majoring in communications or political science in college and these CTE classes have provided an immense amount of depth to my knowledge. Being a part of these CTE courses has strengthened my knowledge and understanding of the world around me. I look forward to applying it in my college and career experiences," said Alexander.

CAITLYN ATKINSON, a graduate of Bonneville High School
Future Automotive Technician

Caitlyn Atkinson participated in numerous CTE classes while in high school where she developed skills in the area of automotive technology. As a result of her hard work and dedication she received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Ogden-Weber Technical College.

"The CTE classes I took in high school were critical for my growth as a student and as a person heading into adulthood. They taught me real-life skills that I will be able to use for the rest of my life as well as giving me a taste of what it is like to have a career. For several years I focused on the CTE Automotive Technician Pathway. I chose this CTE Pathway because it was hands-on and I could experience everything right in front of me as well as learn with the exact tools and techniques I would use in the field after I graduated. I am extremely glad I got the opportunity to take CTE classes. Taking them taught me exactly how it would be if I were to get a job in that field. The work we did on all cars was treated as if it were for a customer and every job required the proper documentation.

"The CTE program has helped me in ways I never thought it could. In my first automotive class I was introduced to SkillsUSA and became a member. As the years progressed I became president of my chapter. My CTE classes have helped me grow as a person and a professional as well as give me hands-on training for careers and real-life experience that I could not gain from any other classes," said Caitlyn.

DISTRICT 4: Jennifer Graviet (continued)

HANNAH NUETZMAN, a graduate of Syracuse High School
Future Nurse

Hannah Nuetzman has always wanted a career in nursing. In high school she participated in the CTE Nursing Pathway where she earned her CNA. Hannah received the CTE Secondary Pathway Completer Recognition Award after completing 3.0 credits in the Nursing Pathway.

"I have always known that I wanted to go into the medical field, so having the opportunity to start my journey in high school was amazing. I was able to get college credits from taking medical anatomy and sports medicine [courses] and I received my CNA, which lead me to an awesome job. Completing this [Nursing] Pathway provided me with much more incentive to continue my passion in the medical field. I am graduating from high school with a job in the medical field leading straight into my future that I couldn't have gotten without this Pathway" said Hannah.

KAILA LEMONS, a graduate of Northridge High School
Future Engineer

Kaila Lemons received the CTE Secondary Pathway Completer Recognition Award after completing 3.0 credits in the Engineering Pathway and 3.0 credits in the Electronics Pathway. She is planning to continue her education at the University of Utah in the field of mechanical engineering.

"My involvement and completion of the Engineering and Electronics CTE Pathways has given me the opportunity to receive numerous certifications. The organizational, team management, and communication skills that I have actively practiced will carry me through a successful college experience and career. The wide range of opportunities that are available to students set us apart. Participating in these Pathways made me more competitive for the Boys and Girls Clubs of America 2017 Utah State Military Youth of the Year competition, where I won a $5,000 scholarship.

"My involvement in the STEM Academy and CTE Pathways at my school also provided a strong foundation for my application to the 2017 Engineering Experience at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, which I am thankful to say I was accepted. I now have the confidence to fight for my education and to raise my standards of accomplishment within engineering. Beyond the certificates and resumes, these classes have given me the confidence to drive change in the world by teaching me the skills necessary to design and implement unique solutions.

"The thirst for discovery, mental endurance, and empowerment that these CTE Pathways encompass has driven me to pursue starting my own alternative energy engineering company. In the fall of 2017, I will begin studying mechanical engineering at the University of Utah and reside in the Lassonde Studios where I will begin company development. I would like to use this company as a means to give back to all of the engineering programs that give kids a new perspective of academia, just as my engineering department did for me. The greatest impact these Pathways have had on my life is that they helped me discover my purpose," said Kaila.

DISTRICT 5: Laura Belnap

ERIC MANZANARES, a graduate of Mountain High School
Future Architect

Eric Manzanares's occupational goal is to become an architectural engineer and own his own business. As a member of DECA Eric developed real-world skills such as effective communication, problem solving, teamwork, critical thinking, dependability, and accountability. Eric attributes the CTE courses in high school with his success.

"My CTE courses during high school are the reason I am such an outstanding citizen in my community. Since ninth grade, I have been held accountable to be a leader, to do as one would be expected not as one to follow another's action. I have been taught skills such as realization of worth and problem-solving skills that have allowed me to evaluate good choices versus better choices. This knowledge has allowed me to understand a problem and evaluate the best outcome. I have learned to work persistently until I could overcome problems and gain the reward of completion," said Eric.

LANA BANGERTER, a graduate of Viewmont High School
Future Cosmetologist

Lana Bangerter plans to attend Davis Technical College to pursue a career in cosmetology. Through concurrent enrollment classes she was able to save time and money as she pursued her chosen career of study.

"CTE courses are phenomenal! All of the CTE courses I have taken helped me learn skills that I will use every day. Without these classes I wouldn't be as knowledgeable and ready for adult life. While taking CTE courses, I have earned high school and college credit that will save me both time and money in college. Taking these courses helped me to discover what career was best for me through hands-on experiences. These courses were very influential in my decision to pursue my education," said Lana.

DISTRICT 5: Laura Belnap (continued)

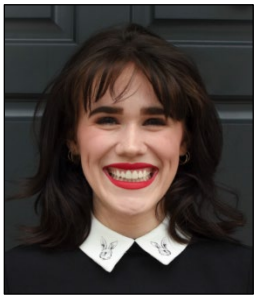
LANDON BECKER, a graduate of Davis High School
Future Engineer

Landon Becker hopes to make engineering his career. While in high school he participated in the CTE Engineering Pathway where he had the opportunity to intern with an engineering company using the 3D modeling software skills he developed. Landon received the CTE Secondary Pathway Completer Recognition Award after completing 3.0 credits in the Engineering Pathway.

"By [participating] in the Engineering Pathway I was able to experience the field of engineering and see if it is something I actually enjoy. Many people who are good at math assume they have to be an engineer without actually really understanding what it is. However, I have come to understand what engineering really entails and have found that I really do enjoy it and hope to make it part of my college education and a lifelong career.

"Over the summer, I worked as an engineer intern and was not only able to use things like math and chemistry but also the engineering design process and 3D modeling I learned in this [Engineering] Pathway. Because of the basic skills I learned in this Pathway, and learned just what engineers do, I hope to make engineering my future career," said Landon.

SAVANNAH WEST, a graduate of Woods Cross High School
Future Marketing Manager



Savannah West participated and completed the CTE Commercial Art Pathway. At graduation she was recognized for her accomplishment with the CTE Secondary Pathway Completer Recognition Award. Savannah attributes her high school success to the CTE program.

"I started my path in the CTE program my freshman year seeing it through to my senior year. Being a CTE Pathway completer is not about receiving a cord, but setting a course for a better future. My goal in life is to be professionally creative and CTE was my catalyst for a professional creative lifestyle.

"By combining my passion for the arts and the professionalism of the business world I opened up doors to opportunities that were previously closed. Through these doors I was able to achieve goals such as [being] a Business and Marketing Sterling Scholar at Woods Cross High School, president of DECA, state champion in the Human Resources [Management Series] (DECA 2017), and gaining a valuable education in business and marketing.

"With driven teachers, classes that pushed me, and the opportunity to grow I was able to use the CTE program to benefit me to the fullest extent. I will be attending Parsons School of Design, in New York, this fall working towards a communication design (BFA) degree. The CTE program not only gave my high school career a purpose but set a clear pathway for my future," said Savannah.

DISTRICT 6: Brittney Cummins

LILYANA HALL, a graduate of Kearns High School
Future Preschool Teacher

Lilyana Hall participated in several career and technical student organizations while in high school where she developed both leadership and workplace skills. Her occupational goal is to become a preschool teacher. Lilyana received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Salt Lake Community College to pursue her educational goals.

"The CTE courses I have taken throughout my high school career have made me well rounded. I now have knowledge in many diverse areas. Theses courses have allowed me to get hands-on training. I now have work experience in these subjects.

"I have developed both leadership and workplace skills through my participation in DECA, FBLA, FCCLA, and HOSA. I have learned to take charge and problem solve in any situation. I have gained the ability to think critically and communicate well with others. My dependability has also increased over the past few years.

"My advice to any student considering taking CTE courses is take as many as you can. These classes have changed my outlook on school and made it more enjoyable. CTE courses give you hands-on learning experiences and help you complete tasks given to you in the workforce," said Lilyana.

DISTRICT 6: Brittney Cummins(continued)

LISBETH ALCALA, a graduate of Taylorsville High School
Future Nurse

Lisbeth Alcala focused on the Medical Assistant Pathway throughout high school where she gained the skills and experience to successfully continue her education at a postsecondary institution. Lisbeth received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to pursue an associate degree at Salt Lake Community College.

"All of the goals that I have had throughout [my] life have always been my motivation to succeed. My short and long term goals not only have taught me so much about my own potential and ability, but also how important it is to be organized in order to be successful.

"The CTE courses that I have taken in high school have prepared me for college and overall life. The CTE classes I took gave me an extensive overview of how college is structured not only by giving examples of courses, but by also providing me with college-level education that has helped me have a good outlook on my future college goals. These classes have helped me choose a career pathway that I have so much desire in going into and has reinforced my goal planning.

"I focused on one CTE Pathway in Health Sciences Education at Granite Technical Institute. My first class gave me such a fun and educational experience that helped forge my path. Medical Assisting (MA) has been a class that has changed my entire high school experience because I have learned skills that I will take into my life.

"CTE classes not only give high school students an educational experience as well as college preparation, but an opportunity to gain an immense amount of expertise. I know this will help me in my future college career, my MA externship, post-college occupation, and overall life," said Lisbeth.

MADALYNN BREEZE, a graduate of Kearns High School
Future Interior Designer

Madalynn Breeze participated in numerous CTE courses throughout high school where she developed the skills to pursue a career in interior design. She received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Salt Lake Community College to continue her education in interior and architectural design.

"My personal goals in education are to receive an associate degree in architectural drafting and interior design at Salt Lake Community College. My occupational goal is to work for an architectural firm in Utah. The Career and Technical Education courses I have taken were set up similar to a college program. I participated in hands-on experiences that showed me what I will be doing in the career I want to pursue. I learned how to prepare and present myself in a professional way," said Madalynn.

DISTRICT 6: Brittney Cummins(continued)

OMAR SANCHEZ, a graduate of Granger High School
Future Welder

Omar Sanchez's occupational goal is to become a welder. He attributes the welding classes he took in high school to learning valuable leadership and workplace skills. Omar received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Weber State University to further his education and to become a certified welding inspector.

"Taking welding all four years of high school definitely taught me many valuable leadership and workplace skills. When I began as a freshman, I knew nothing. I gradually learned how to effectively work as a team with others to get work done in a timely manner, mainly in my advanced welding class. I also gained many production/fabrication skills in order to work faster because as the saying goes: "time is money." When working on a project, my teacher, Mr. Murillo, has given me many tips to make fabrication faster. Because I got to compete at the SkillsUSA state welding competition I learned what it felt like to be prepared for a job," said Omar.

DISTRICT 7: Carol Lear

ALICIA VO, a graduate of West High School
Future Nurse

Alicia Vo participated in the CTE Nursing Pathway while in high school where she became certified in cardiovascular pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and become a certified nursing assistant (CNA). She received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Salt Lake Community College to continue her studies in nursing.

"I focused in the CTE Nursing Pathway at West High School. My experience started with entering 9th grade in which I realized I was interested in medicine because I love to help people. The experiences that are required to enter and succeed in my occupational area [are to receive] a high school diploma and [earn] a CNA by passing my skills and state test. The other experiences that are required as a successful student are good social skills, commitment, dedication, honesty, and passion coming from the heart.

"The first two CTE courses I took were Medical Terminology and Emergency Medical Responder. Medical Terminology taught me how to easily remember simple to complex medical terms. It provided me with the foundation of learning the language of medicine by completing the course. The Emergency Medical Responder course transformed me into a more attentive and reliable first responder on scene. During this course I became CPR certified," said Alicia.

HANNAH TERRY, a graduate of West High School
Future Pharmacy Technician

Hannah Terry focused on the CTE Pharmacy Pathway throughout high school in order to achieve her goal of becoming a pharmacy technician. She received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Davis Technical College to continue her studies as a pharmacy technician.

"The CTE courses I took during high school have significantly benefited me in my preparation for my life and career after high school. CTE classes have been the classes I have been most interested in, especially in health sciences. When I took courses related to health sciences I immediately knew that this is what I wanted to pursue.

"In my health sciences classes I learned a considerable amount about the human body and medical terms. It was all so intriguing to learn about. Medical Anatomy and Physiology was a considerably tough class to take, especially during my first year of high school. I was absolutely fascinated with the course and its information," said Hannah.

DISTRICT 7: Carol Lear (continued)

MACKENZE MADRID, a graduate of Highland High School
Future Preschool Teacher

Mackenze Madrid's occupation goal is to become an early childhood education teacher. While in high school she developed teaching skills that will be beneficial to her when she begins her student teaching. Mackenze received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Salt Lake Community College to pursue her educational goals.

"My educational goal is to get an associate degree in early childhood education and then to get my bachelor's degree in elementary education. CTE courses prepared me for what I am going to learn as a student and as a student teacher and what I am to expect when working with children. An advantage of taking these classes is that they have given me more choices for college.

"The advice I would give to students is to take a class! CTE courses will help you in different aspects of your life and they will give you an experience you'll never forget! The CTE classes you take will give you more experience in a career you're thinking of pursuing or if you haven't figured out what you'd want to become yet, these classes might help you find what you would want to be. Whatever you learn in your class, it can be applied to your life after high school.

DISTRICT 8: Janet Cannon

CADEN THOMAS, a graduate of Murray High School
Future Carpenter

Caden Thomas focused on the CTE Carpentry Pathway while in high school and would like to start his own construction business someday. Caden developed skills to advance his goals while taking carpentry and construction classes where he further developed his skills as a craftsman. Caden received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Salt Lake Community College to continue his studies in carpentry.

"My goal after graduating from high school is to go to Salt Lake Community College and get a two-year AS degree in construction management. While going to school, I would like to be able to work for a big name construction company to further my education and gain experience in the workforce.

"In the carpentry/construction class we were able to build hands-on skills that we will be able to use for the rest of our lives. The class is very motivating. Seeing what you can accomplish in just a few hours makes you want to come back the next day to continue the project. You are taught the proper way to complete a job, even though it may not be easy. It teaches you to have patience and take pride in the work you do at the project house and in the woodshop. Once I have gained a sufficient amount of experience I would like to be able to be my own boss and start my own business," said Caden.

JACOB HUFF, a graduate of Cottonwood High School
Future Graphic Designer

Jacob Huff enjoys drawing and has always wanted to be an artist. While in high school, he took several digital media classes where he further developed his skills in animation design. Jacob received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Salt Lake Community College to continue his studies in graphic design.

"When I was nine I would doodle and draw whenever I got the chance, so I knew I wanted to be an artist. Not because I was passionate about drawing, but because it was fun. Once I got to high school, I discovered a technical school in my district that was offering [graphic design classes] to students called the GTI [Granite Technical Institute]. When I took the Intro to Animation class that's when I discovered I wanted to be a cartoonist. I loved working with computers and enjoyed drawing in a way that was more entertaining. My goal then became going to a university to earn a bachelor's degree, so I could start a career in animation and cartoons.

"The CTE digital media classes I have taken definitely helped me work on my goals for being an animator. I have learned things about the software that I never knew before and I have been able to practice and better my skills in art in a way that I have really enjoyed," said Jacob.

DISTRICT 8: Janet Cannon (continue)

LaDONNA NICHOLS, a graduate of Vanguard Academy
Future Accountant

LaDonna wants to be the best account she can be. She attributes several CTE classes that helped prepare her for here future. Those classes were accounting and foundations of computer science. She thanks her teacher for helping her realize the benefits of understanding the rules of accounting.

"My goal is to be the best accountant I can be. To be able to succeed in my chosen career I would need to know how to do journal entries, prepare the trial balance, make entries, and prepare the financial statements. I would also need to know how to close the accounts and prepare the post-closing trial balance. There were several different CTE classes that have helped prepare me for my future after high school. Ms. Cannon, my teacher, helped me realize how beneficial it is to know and understand accounting. She made it seem easy while at the same time helped me know why accountants do what they do," said LaDonna

SELENA PHAM, a graduate of Olympus High School
Future Mechanical Engineer

While in high school, Selena participated in the Technology Student Association (TSA) where she developed essential soft skills from working in a team. She attributes CTE to guiding her towards her future career. Selena received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Salt Lake Community College to further her studies in engineering.

"I desire to go into mechanical engineering with an emphasis in biomedical engineering. The CTE courses I completed guided me towards my future career. I did not know what I wanted to go into and taking these courses convinced me to go into engineering. I have gained so many valuable skills from taking CTE courses that will help me not only in the workplace but in my everyday life. I know what I want to do with my future and I am dead set on it. Taking CTE courses in engineering showed me a glimpse of what working as an engineer will be like," said Selena.

DISTRICT 9: Cindy Davis

HANNAH JENSEN, a graduate of American Fork High School
Future Graphic Designer

Hannah Jensen has always been intrigued with art and design and plans to major in graphic design. Through participating in a CTE Internship and job shadow experience Hannah hopes to gain the experience she needs to be successful in her career. Hannah received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Utah Valley University to continue her studies in graphic design.

"I have always loved art and design and have a strong interest in graphic design. I plan to major in graphic design with a studio art emphasis in photography/digital design. I have always dreamed of living in New York. I would love to work for a magazine using my digital media background, or be a graphic designer for a large product company. Whether I end up there or not, my intention is a career in graphic design or digital media at a company [where] I can be successful. I hope to gain some experience before my career by working with people locally and networking through internships and job shadowing experiences.

"The CTE program helped me in many ways. I never would have realized my potential if it weren't for the many opportunities I have been blessed to be a part of in my high school career. All of my CTE teachers have been very informative and helpful in guiding me to an interest of study. CTE classes have prepared me to be more self-sufficient, goal-oriented, and confident in my skills. CTE classes have helped me be a better student. I love the CTE programs and the opportunity they provide young students. I am now exceling in digital media thanks to CTE. I am very excited for my future," said Hannah.

KIERA GREEN, a graduate of Pleasant Grove High School
Future Cosmetologist

Kiera Green participated in the CTE Cosmetology/Barbering Pathway in high school and learned that cutting and styling hair is harder and more complex than it looks. Kiera received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Mountainland Technical College (MTC) to finish her studies in cosmetology.

"The CTE Pathway I chose to focus on in high school was cosmetology because it has always been my lifelong dream to work with hair, skin, and nails. Being in the Cosmetology program at Mountainland Technical College has shown me that cutting and styling hair is harder and more complex than it looks. Going to cosmetology school while in high school has been one of the most challenging things I have done.

"Continuing my education past high school is one of the most important things to me in life, because I know that I am in a career that will always be needed and constantly changing, so I will always be learning new things. My license in cosmetology will help me work towards my dream of owning my own salon and supporting my family. I have learned so much in this program and would not have chosen a different career path to take," said Kiera.

DISTRICT 9: Cindy Davis (continued)

LYNZIE WEAKLEY, a graduate of Pleasant Grove High School
Future Emergency Medical Technician

Lynzie Weakley became interested in the field of medicine after taking medical anatomy while in high school. She plans to continue her studies in medicine and has a goal to become an EMT and Life-Flight paramedic. Lynzie received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Weber State University to further her training in the medical field.

"CTE has had a huge impact on my life. Because of the CTE classes I have taken I want to work in emergency medicine. My love for the medical field started with the first class I took in high school, which was medical anatomy. In this class I became fascinated with the human body, what it does, and how it works. I realized very quickly that the medical field would be a great fit for me. I want to be involved in saving people's lives and helping them when they are sick. I have been working as a CNA for the past two years and have loved my experiences in helping others.

"The four CTE courses I have taken in high school have given me a great jump-start into my professional career. While attending my Medical Anatomy and [Physiology] class I had the great opportunity to attend a cadaver lab. This experience was really something that spurred me on to take additional CTE classes," said Lynzie.

SHAQUEL REMUND, a graduate of Skyridge High School
Future Dental Hygenist

Shaquel Remund participated in numerous CTE courses throughout high school where she developed lifelong skills and a passion for dentistry. Focusing on the CTE Dental Assisting Pathway she developed skills that will help her to succeed as she advances from high school to college and career. Shaquel received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Salt Lake Community College to further her training in the field of dentistry.

"During high school I had the privilege of taking many CTE courses that taught me important life skills. I learned how to cook, sew, manage money, and work with people. I also learned about the human body, how it works, and steps to take to remain healthy and prevent diseases to the best of our ability. The Teen Living course that I was able to take taught me a lot about what kind of person I am and how I can work better with those around me. The Dental Assistant [course] taught me so much. It has helped me gain a love for working with and helping people. Every CTE class has helped me develop important skills that will help me in my life after high school and has made me excited to continue on with my education and achieving my goals.

"To achieve my goal of becoming a dental hygienist, I plan on attending Salt Lake Community College to receive my associate degree. Because of the previous knowledge I've gained about dentistry I feel that I will be able to understand what is being taught and learn better in the Dental Hygiene program," said Shaquel.

DISTRICT 10: Shawn Newell

ADISON WILKO, a graduate of Brighton High School
Future Pediatric Nurse

Adison Wilko participated in the CTE Nursing Pathway while in high school where she became certified as a CNA, certified in first-aid, and certified in CPR. Adison received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Salt Lake Community College to further her education and training in nursing.

"My personal goal is to become a licensed nurse and work in a pediatrician's office. It takes a lot of work to become a nurse, for example lots of testing and it is very difficult and competitive to get into a nursing school, but I know that I will be able to get in with my hard work and experience.

"Getting my CNA in high school, through CTE, has really prepared me for starting my pathway in nursing and has helped me know that nursing is a field that I really enjoy and something that I could really excel in. I am prepared to do whatever it takes to succeed in this career. Because of focusing on the [Nursing Pathway] in high school I have a better understanding of the medical field and what it takes to get a degree in nursing," said Adison.

COURTNEY SMITH, a graduate of Corner Canyon High School
Future Registered Nurse

Courtney Smith has had the goal to become a registered nurse since she was very young. While in high school Courtney took several CTE courses where she learned the skills she needed to pursue a career in medicine. Courtney received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Southern Utah University (SUU) to continue her studies and training in the medical field.

"My main life goal, that I have had ever since I can remember, is to become a registered nurse. Growing up I was able to watch my mother, a pediatric nurse, care for and educate others. I made it my goal to become like her one day.

"I have completed eight CTE courses. These courses have taught me many skills which I will use throughout my life. I took medical anatomy and physiology my junior year, which completely changed my outlook on the medical profession. By the time I finished the course I knew for certain I wanted to learn more about the body and educate others.

"While learning about my future field of study I have gained a better understanding of what it takes to achieve my occupational goals. I have learned to love the medical atmosphere and am excited to learn more in hopes to enhance my knowledge.

"Southern Utah University has a great nursing program and I am ecstatic to be attending there this fall. After I complete my training at SUU I plan on working full time at a pediatric clinic as a nurse and caring for children. I know that this job requires patience, knowledge, and determination, all of which I have acquired by working hard and trying my best," said Courtney.

DISTRICT 10: Shawn Newell (continued)

JENNA WARBY, a graduate of Alta High School
Future Graphic Designer

Jenny Warby attended a career fair at Alta High School that guided her to graphic design. As a result of her interaction with one of the speakers she was given the opportunity to participate in an internship where she used the skills she learned in the CTE courses she took. Jenny received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Salt Lake Community College to continue her studies in graphic design.

"The CTE courses taught me how to work with strict deadlines, inspired original thinking, and basic knowledge of design and brands. I focused on the Digital Marketing Pathway in high school after learning about it at the Alta Career Fair. From that moment I knew exactly what I wanted to do with my career!

"The speaker at the Career Fair mentioned an internship opportunity at Real Salt Lake where she worked. Curious, I applied. I was hired at 16 years old and worked closely with the director of marketing to create graphics for the club. Not only did I learn valuable industry knowledge, from professionals in my field, I learned to be confident with myself and my work. Choosing a path in digital media changed my life for the better," said Jenna.

MARCUS CROSTON, a graduate of Corner Canyon High School
Future Film Production Technician

Marcus Croston participated in the CTE Television Broadcasting Technician Pathway while in high school where he gained experience in camera work, production software, and editing videos. His goal is working for a multi-media entertainment company. Marcus received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Salt Lake Community College where he will continue his studies in video production.

"In high school I took many CTE classes that have prepared me for my chosen career including 3D graphics, 3D animation, television broadcasting, and video production. Since I want to go into film production these classes helped me by giving me experience in camera work, production software, editing, and setting up different kinds of videos. In addition, I learned how to manage project-based work, collaborate with a team, and follow a strict timeline.

"It was during my junior year of high school that I took TV broadcasting, which sparked my interest in film editing. As part of the class I was a commentator and camera operator for multiple home basketball games. Based upon my experiences in these two classes, I found that I want to pursue film/video production as a career and selected film production to be my area of focus in college," said Marcus.

DISTRICT 11: Michael Haynes

ANNALIS NIELSEN, a graduate of Westlake High School
Future Chef

Annalis Nielsen's goal is to pursue a career in culinary arts and become an executive chef, after obtaining an associate degree from Utah Valley University (UVU). During high school she participated in many culinary classes and competitions to heighten her culinary skills. Annalis received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to UVU where she will study and train in the Culinary Arts program.

"The CTE classes I have taken in high school have had a tremendous impact on not only me as a person but on my abilities as well. My participation in ProStart®, FACS classes, and FCCLA competitions have caused me to grow and become who I am today. Because of all of the things I have been involved in I have become more confident in myself and in my abilities. I have learned how to be a team player and how to work hard. I have been able to see how failures can turn into successes with hard work and dedication. I have also increased my knowledge and skills.

"During my senior year I continued being a part of ProStart® and began my internship as a pastry chef at Kneaders. This experience has given me the opportunity to meet new people and apply my skills in the industry," said Annalis.

JONATHAN DAILEY, a graduate of Riverton High School
Future Construction Manager

Jonathan Dailey has an enthusiasm for building things. While taking a woodworking class in high school he built a nightstand and a hunting rifle chest. He enjoys working with wood and hopes to own a construction company someday. Jonathan received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Salt Lake Community College to continue his training in construction management.

"I have always enjoyed working with my hands and have always been interested in working with power tools. I enjoy measuring, jointing, cutting, and assembling wood. Someday I hope to own my own construction company. I want to get all the education I can in this field so I can become a successful professional in construction management.

"Taking a CTE class in high school has helped me become more passionate about a skill. It has helped me prepare for college by motivating me to study for those subjects that I enjoy. CTE has prepared me to focus and think clearly through solutions when I run into a problem. The experience improved my mental abilities and my hands-on skills. CTE taught me that education is more than just math, language arts, history, and science. It is also skill based," said Jonathan.

DISTRICT 11: Michael Haynes (continued)

KYLEE LARSEN, a graduate of Riverton High School
Future Nurse

Kylee Larsen wants to become the first member in her family to graduate from college. Her goal is to become a registered nurse. During Kylee's senior year she participated in a CTE Internship at Jordan Valley Hospital where she followed professionals in numerous health care occupations for eight weeks. Kylee received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Utah Valley University to continue her studies in nursing.

"I never thought that being an accident prone child would help me find my passion. Growing up and being in and out of the hospital really showed me what I truly love. As the nurses and doctors took care of me, and tried to make my experience unforgettable, I realized that was exactly what I wanted to do too. That's why becoming a registered nurse would be perfect for me.

"The CTE courses I took in high school taught me so many critical life skills that will be essential in my future during college and in my career. I learned how to act professional and learned important skills needed for my future occupation. During high school I focused on the Medical Assistant Pathway. I am so grateful I decided to follow this CTE Pathway because I now feel more than ready to take the next step to college and I feel very prepared.
"It amazes me how much I can accomplish when I put my mind to it. From being a little girl always visiting the hospital I would have never thought that was exactly where I would want to be for my job in the future. Now, I am more than excited," said Kylee.

DISTRICT 11: Michael Haynes (continued)

TYLLAR HUBBARD, a graduate of Herriman High School
Future Fashion Designer

Tyllar Hubbard's goal is to obtain a degree in fashion design and a degree in fashion merchandising. While in high school she participated in the CTE Fashion Design, Manufacturing and Merchandising Pathway where she learned the theories and application of fashion design.

"My academic goals are to obtain a degree in fashion design and a degree in fashion merchandising. Therefore, I plan to attend Salt Lake Community College (SLCC) to obtain my two-year degree. After graduating with an associate degree from SLCC [I plan] to attend The Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising in San Diego, CA,where I can continue my studies and graduate with a bachelor's degree. I plan to enter the field by creating my own label and marketing my line of clothing.

"The Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses I took in high school helped prepare me for college and work. The information I learned from CTE classes provided me with a knowledge base about the theories and application of fashion design. The CTE Pathway I took in high school was specific to my area of interest and college and career goals. I found it exciting and motivating to be able to take classes in high school that fulfilled my passions.

"It was a wonderful experience and opportunity to actively learn about fashion design in high school. It not only satisfied my desire to learn about this field, but the CTE class made me more knowledgeable and more prepared for college and employment in my field of study," said Tyllar.

DISTRICT 12: Mark Marsh

CAMILE RHOADES, a graduate of Wasatch High School
Future Photographer

Camile Rhoades has a passion for photography and plans to graduate with an associate degree from Utah Valley University (UVU). By receiving a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to UVU she is well on the pathway to reaching her goal.

"Leadership, agriculture, and photography are just a few of the things I love. My goals take me many places and one of those goals is a two-year degree in the field of photography. I discovered my love for photography during my freshmen year of high school when I participated in my first photography class—basic film. At my high school, the photography classes are well known because of the challenge they present.

"High school photography courses prepared me for college and a career by not only teaching me the basics and foundations, but also giving me opportunities to put [what I learned] to use. I was able to make and design business posters for my school as well as market upcoming events in FFA and Wasatch CAPS [Wasatch Center for Advanced Professional Studies]. It gave me real life experience that has shown me what the field is really like.

"In high school, I also focused in the CTE Commercial Photography Pathway [learning] both film and digital photography. I loved learning more about photography and plan to accomplish all my goals of becoming a professional photographer," said Camile.

DYLAN BETTS, a graduate of Uintah High School
Future Electrician

Dylan developed leadership and workplace skills while participating in FFA and SkillsUSA while in high school. He attributes the CTE courses he took to preparing him for the workplace and hopes to one day own his own business. Dylan received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Uintah Technical College to advance his skills in order to become trained and licensed as an electrician.

"CTE courses taught me an abundance of skills relating to preparation for future workplace environments. I learned how to become a better listener, observer, and leader. I feel these skills will benefit me in my self-development as a person with character and my future as a business owner. CTE courses gave me firsthand experience and knowledge in various capacities. I was able to see where my skills sets and interests are and ways in which they can serve a greater purpose," said Dylan.

DISTRICT 12: Mark Marsh (continued)

KAYLEE MARCHANT, a graduate of South Summit High School
Future Business Owner

Kaylee Marchant wants to pursue a career in business administration and hopes to someday own and operate a greenhouse and floral shop. While in high school she took several CTE courses to develop the skills to reach her goals. Kaylee received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Bridgerland Technical College where she will continue her studies in business.

"Today's economy demands a better educated workforce than ever before, and jobs in this new economy require more complex knowledge and skills than the jobs of the past. To meet these workforce needs postsecondary training or higher education is needed to gain these skills. I feel choosing a CTE path, post high school, will help me be prepared to obtain and excel in these jobs.

"Through my CTE classes in high school, I've discovered I really enjoy floriculture and greenhouse management, computer technology, and the customer service industry. Because of these passions, I would like to pursue a career in business administration.

"In high school I focused on a CTE Pathway. The CTE classes I was involved in helped prepare me for success in a business administrative program. I would like to use the business skills I will obtain to achieve my final goal, which is to open my own greenhouse and floral shop," said Kaylee.

LUKE CHATWIN, a graduate of Timpanogos High School
Future Secondary Education Teacher

Luke's passion is to teach high school. The CTE classes he took while in high school helped him make the decision of what type of teacher he wanted to be. Luke received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Salt Lake Community College where he will continue his studies to become a secondary education teacher.

"I want to be able to pass on my love for teaching to students who share my same passion. I have taken many CTE classes throughout my high school career. Many of the classes have given me a way to choose what type of teacher I want to be. A lot of the teachers at my high school influenced me [in my decision] for the career I have chosen. One teacher specifically was Sandra Hopkin. She showed me that you can teach but you also need to have fun," said Luke.

DISTRICT 13: Scott Neilson

AUSTIN KINROSS, a graduate of Springville High School
Future Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

Austin Kinross has always wanted the skills to help save lives. He admires police officers, firemen, and paramedics. His career goal is to become an EMT. While in high school, Austin took the emergency medical responder course where he learned advance emergency medical information and skills. Austin received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Mountainland Technical College where he will study and train in the Emergency Healthcare program.

"Paramedics helped save my grandfather's life by their quick reaction as well as their specialized training. They prevented any potential damage to my grandfather's heart, or to his life, after [he suffered] a stroke. I have always wanted to be that person who helps save lives and be like the paramedics who saved the life of my grandpa. Paramedics have confidence, strength, and knowledge combined with skills to assess the situation. I want to have those traits.

"I used to play "hero" or "policeman" when I was younger, and ever since that time I have always wanted to become a hero and a great man. I have looked up to police officers, firemen, and paramedics. I know I have the heart, spirit and compassion to help people.

"According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of emergency medical technicians and paramedics is projected to grow 24 percent between 2014 and 2024, adding 58,500 jobs. I want to be one of those 58,500 men and women who help and aide in saving lives. My number one goal is to become an EMT and become a paramedic. With this scholarship, I will not only be able to get my license, but also obtain the knowledge needed to save people's lives," said Austin.

MADISON CLARK, a graduate of Timpview High School
Future Registered Nurse

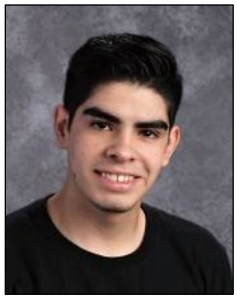
Madison Clark participated in the CTE Medical Assistant Pathway during high school where she had the opportunity to become a CNA. She also participated in a CTE Internship at a local hospital. Madison received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Utah Valley University to continue her studies and training to become a nurse.

"When I entered high school and saw the opportunity to take CTE classes that would help me meet my goals I was so excited and felt like I was starting the process to meet my long term career goals. I was able to follow the CTE Medical Assistant Pathway. Having the opportunity to take health science classes helped me gain a greater understanding of and respect for the amazing human body, and has solidified my decision to work in the medical field as an adult.

"The first semester as a senior in high school I had the opportunity to get my CNA. This gave me the opportunity to have experiences in the healthcare field doing 24 hours of clinicals in nursing homes. I also had the amazing experience of [participating] in an internship with the labor and delivery unit at Timpanogos Hospital. Through these opportunities I am now more [certain] that being a nurse is the right path for me," said Madison.

DISTRICT 13: Scott Neilson (continued)

MIGUEL LOPEZ, a graduate of Provo High School
Future Welder/Welding Teacher



Miguel Lopez earned the American Welding Society D1.1 Welding Certification while in high school. After receiving his bachelor's degree he plans to become a welding teacher. Miguel received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Utah Valley University to continue his studies.

"Four years ago I didn't know one thing about welding. Stepping into the welding shop and not being able to recognize any tools made me feel like an intruder. While working through the fear of trying out something new, I knew I could achieve something with this skill. Now my career goal is to become a high school welding teacher.

"In January, I earned my American Welding Society D1.1 Welding Certification. It wasn't an easy task, but it had to be done for me to reach my goals. My plan is to attend Utah Valley University and get a bachelor's degree in education. After college I want to become a welding teacher. CTE classes have changed my life. All of these classes have taught me skills that I can apply in life, some of which I have already applied in the workforce.

"Learning how to weld in high school helped me land a job as a welder, at the age of 17. Thankfully, my experience got me an interview at Diamondback Manufacturing. I was able to show them my skills and knowledge, and I was hired. Getting paid to do something I enjoy was an amazing feeling. CTE Pathways have given me a very broad knowledge. These classes have been by far the most fun because they offer hands-on learning experience," said Miguel.

SAMANTHA CROCKETT, a graduate of Spanish Fork High School
Future Cosmetologist

Samantha Crockett has wanted to become a cosmetologist since she was very young. She plans to obtain her cosmetology license and to one day own her own salon. She attributes her success to the hands-on training she received in CTE. Samantha received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Mountainland Technical College to continue her training in the field of cosmetology.

"It has always been my goal to become a hairstylist. In 9th grade, when you start your high school to college pathway, cosmetology was my goal. As I grew older I knew I would need additional education to help further my career goals in cosmetology. I plan to acquire my cosmetology license from Mountainland Technical College and continue hands-on training working in a salon right after graduation. I will then continue to pursue my plan to open my own salon.

"CTE courses are the eye-opening courses that teach you how to succeed in everything in your life. We hear our parents try to teach us at home but the courses let you really learn the skills. CTE courses are my favorite because of the reality of the subject and the hands-on learning. I enjoyed all of the skills I learned and was able to see how they would further my career later in life," said Samantha.

DISTRICT 14: Mark Huntsman

ALLISON NIELSON, a graduate of Payson High School
Future Drafter

Allison Nielson has always had a passion for drawing. She took this passion and applied it to the drafting classes she took while in high school where she learned how to use a variety of drafting software programs. Allison received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Utah Valley University to continue her studies in drafting.

"Throughout high school, I have known that drafting is how I want to spend the rest of my life. Drawing and doing math equations were some of my favorite activities when I was younger, and the interest still remains. My education plan involves studying to gain an associate degree in drafting and becoming a draftsman as soon as my schooling is finished. I plan to draft for an architectural or a mechanical firm.

"The courses I have taken during high school have given me a look inside my chosen field and have prepared me for my college education and career. I have learned how to draw many things using different programs including AutoCAD, SolidWorks, and SoftPlan. I have completed many drawings including auxiliary views, pictorials, floor plans, and much more. I know that being in these classes has prepared me for all of the classes that are to come. I am excited to begin my college life and get out into the world," said Allison.

DAVID FULLMER, a graduate of Monticello High School
Heavy Machine Operator

David Fullmer's occupational goal is to get his CDL (Commercial Driver's License) and become a certified heavy machine operator. He credits his dad and the SkillsUSA organization for teaching him to work hard and follow through on projects. David received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Bridgerland Technical College to continue his studies

"I have a passion for farming and I want to push myself to learn more about the things I am interested in, like heavy machines. Every summer I work for my dad on the farm. I drive combines and tractors. I also helped build a silo and have worked on fences. Working for my dad has taught me a lot of responsibility and how to work hard.

"I also developed many skills while being involved in SkillsUSA. I learned the value of hard work and how slacking on the job affects you negatively. When working in a shop with others, I learned it's important to follow safety rules. Not only for me but for others too. I learned that good communication is a big part of teamwork. The most important thing I learned was how important it is to stay on task and finish what you start.

"My CTE classes taught me responsibility and the importance of completing projects. If you don't do the work, you get bad grade. When it comes to the real world, if you don't do the work, you don't get paid. Its that simple but so important to know," said David.

DISTRICT 14: Mark Huntsman (continued)

NADINE HARVEY, a graduate of Grand County High School
Future Veterinarian

Nadine Harvey realized she wanted to become a veterinarian after spending time on her father's ranch where she was surrounded by animals. Her enthusiasm for the well-being of animals led her to taking animal science classes while in high school which furthered her love for veterinary science. Nadine received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Utah State University in Moab to continue her studies to become a veterinarian.

"Go and tell the Navajo people that education is the ladder," said Chief Manuelito of the Diné (Navajo People). This became my grandparents' wish for their grandchildren, to climb this ladder so we can create a better future for ourselves. I am graduating soon, but this doesn't mean my education is over. I'm still paving the way.

"I lived the beginning of my life in cities with towering buildings. I eventually moved back home, to the Navajo Nation. The red mesas to the west, the blue mountains to the east, and the valley exploding with life and people. This became my home. Spending time on my father's ranch made me realize that I wanted to become a veterinarian, since I was always surrounded by animals. After realizing this, I pushed myself to take whatever classes I needed to deepen my understanding of the occupation I wanted. During my freshman year, I filled my class [schedule] with animal science classes and these classes furthered my love for veterinary science. Opportunities were thrown left and right in front of me. Hands-on training and demonstrating to classes how to properly organize a surgery prep kit, and how to prep the animal for surgery, was my motivation to go to school.

"However, once I moved to Moab, my options of having the same opportunities at my previous school became limited. Four acres housing cows, goats, pigs, horses, cats, and dogs shrunk to three guinea pigs and a fat goldfish. I still pursued my dream and signed up for an internship at the Moab Veterinary Clinic on Spanish Valley Drive. The CTE courses gave me examples of real life, and I'm grateful that they did. This proved to me that hard work, dedication, and integrity does get the work done, if you truly want it," said Nadine.

DISTRICT 14: Mark Huntsman (continued)

SHAYLA SQUIRES, a graduate of Richfield High School
Future Elementary Teacher

Shayla Squires participated in a CTE Internship in the field of elementary education working with students in the third grade. Her experience confirmed her decision to become and elementary teacher.

"Have you ever thought about the future and who will change the world? I know who because I have the opportunity of being in the classroom with them two or three times a week. These third graders, that I am able to help teach, are going to have a lasting effect on the future. At this point in their lives they are learning skills they will need throughout high school, college, and everyday life.

"I am doing my CTE Internship in the field of elementary education. I have been able to work with students one-on-one, helping them learn basic multiplication. Every day they teach me new things, giving me a different outlook on life. With help from their teacher, my mentor DeAnn Henrie, I have learned and experienced something not very many students get during their high school years. This learning experience has confirmed for me that I want to be an elementary teacher," said Shayla.

DISTRICT 15: Michelle Boulter

BRONTÉ HADLOCK, a graduate of Desert Hills High School
Future Nurse

Bronté Hadlock's academic interests include the medical and health science fields. She was the president of HOSA at Desert Hills High School where she successfully organized a Wipeout Cancer event on World Cancer Day. Bronté plans to use the CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award she received to Dixie State University (DSU) to pursue a degree in nursing.

"My educational goal is to attend Dixie State University and become a registered nurse (RN). Upon completion I will pursue an occupation in pediatric nursing with the hope to work with the amazing staff at Primary Children's Hospital.

"Throughout high school my main focus has been in the CTE Health Science Education [Nursing] Pathway. The field I plan on pursuing requires a sound knowledge of medical anatomy and physiology, medical terminology, emergency medical response, and introduction to health science. These CTE courses I have taken are the very foundation of the occupation I am pursing. I am so grateful for the learning opportunities that I have here in St. George.

"As I currently have a heavy load of college courses and AP classes, my goal is to have an associate degree before serving an LDS mission. I am optimistic that this goal will be realized through hard work. Upon my return, I plan on continuing my education at DSU and completing my RN degree. The leadership skills I currently possess, and that I will develop, will allow me to be an effective leader in the health science field," said Bronté.

KELSEY STAHELI, a graduate of Enterprise High School
Future Medical Assistant

Kelsey Staheli enjoys helping others and wants to become a medical assistant and [work] in a doctor's office. In high school she took a variety of CTE courses to gain the knowledge and skills in her area of interest in order to continue her education after high school. She received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition to continue her studies at Dixie Technical College.

"I am currently taking a CNA course at Dixie Technical College and I want to become a medical assistant. I am interested in the medical field because I enjoy helping other people. I need to learn organization skills and to master my people skills as I gain basic knowledge of nursing.

"In addition to the CTE classes I have taken I have also learned from other experiences that have helped me prepare for my future career and my future family. CTE courses have given me knowledge and experience that I will need in my profession," said Kelsey.

DISTRICT 15: Michelle Boulter (continued)

REAGAN HOUSLEY, a graduate of Pine View High School
Future Nurse

Reagan Housley was the president of HOSA at Pine View High School during her senior year. As president she increased her skills while serving others. After high school Reagan plans to get a job as a certified nursing assistant while working toward becoming a registered nurse. Reagan received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to Utah Valley University where she will continue her studies in nursing.

"Throughout my high school experience, I have come to understand the importance of CTE classes and how beneficial they are. Because I want to enter the medical field and work with people, I know that patience, respect, and friendliness are extremely important. I must be able to get along with my coworkers as well as communicate with my patients to help them with their needs. I know that compassion is also an important quality to have.

"I was able to take a few CTE classes that completely changed my perspective of my goals and future career. Because of the experiences I've had in high school with service and other responsibilities, I have formed goals that I now will work best for me," said Reagan.

RYEN HINTON, a graduate of Desert Hills High School
Future Physician's Assistant

Ryen Hinton has the goal to become a physician's assistant in the field of oncology. To achieve this goal, Ryen has taken numerous medical classes while in high school and has participated in HOSA. Ryen received a CTE Scholarship and Tuition Award to attend Dixie State University where he will continue his studies in the medical field.

"Having taken almost every medical class I could get my hands on really helped me realize I loved the field of medicine. The medical classes have always been my favorite in comparison to the other CTE classes, making the CTE health science classes my first choice for a career. Everything about the medical courses have been exceptional.

"My occupational goal is simple: physician's assistant (PA). I aim to become a PA and eventually specialize in oncology. Having had the chance to explore a bit of the medical world in person, thanks to my internship and current job, I have a better grasp on what I plan to do in the future," said Ryen.