



**UNLOCKING POTENTIAL
AND EMPOWERING
FUTURES:**

**CAREER PRACTICUMS IN
SMALL RURAL HIGH
SCHOOLS**

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ABOUT US

MISSION STATEMENT

WORK HARD, DREAM BIG, CONQUER THE FUTURE!


VISION

LYFORD CISD, IN COLLABORATION WITH FAMILIES AND THE COMMUNITY IS DEDICATED TO GRADUATING RESPONSIBLE STUDENT LEADERS PREPARED FOR TODAY'S REALITIES AND TOMORROW'S OPPORTUNITIES.



DEMOGRAPHICS

3 
CAMPUSES


1,396
STUDENTS (PK-12)

ENROLLMENT
94% HISPANIC
5% WHITE
13% SPECIAL EDUCATION
70% ECONOMICALLY
DISADVANTAGED
9% EMERGENT BILINGUAL

276 
EMPLOYEES

300
MILE RADIUS
(WILLACY, CAMERON, &
HIDALGO COUNTY)



ACCOUNTABILITY



15

INDUSTRY
BASED
CERTIFICATIONS



100%

GRADUATION
RATE

11



PROGRAMS OF STUDY

83%

SENIORS WHO EARNED
AN IBC

97%

COLLEGE, CAREER AND
MILITARY READINESS

91%

CTE COMPLETERS

Why Practicums Matter



Hands-On Experience



Industry Readiness and Certifications



Complete Programs of Study and Funding



Work-based Learning



Obstacles



Distance/Location

Rural Communities/Scarcity of Businesses

Staffing

Schedule/Training



Our Journey

- **Logistics and Coordination**
- **Planning w/Internal and External Partners**
- **Student Scheduling/Course Offerings**
- **Alignment of Practicums to District Resources**
- **School District Teaching Permits/Job-Related Experience**
- **PTECH, CTE Collaborative and Expansion**



LHS Career Clusters

Programs of Study



Agricultural, Food, and Natural Resources
Agricultural Technology and Mechanical Systems;
Animal Science



Health Science
Exercise Science, Wellness and Restoration



Arts, Audio Visual Technology, and Communication
Digital Communications;
Graphic Design and Interactive Media



Information Technology
Information Technology Support;
Networking



Education and Training
Teaching and Training



Law and Public Service
Law Enforcement



Engineering
Engineering Foundations



Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics
Automotive and Collision Repair



RGV CAREER

Collaborative Alliance for Rural Education and Employment Resources



**Education and Training:
Teaching and Training
Automotive 2025-2026*



**Law and Public Service:
Law Enforcement**



**Manufacturing:
Welding**



**Arts, Audio Visual Techonology and
Communication:
Digital Communications**



**Business, Marketing and Finance:
Business Management**



**Health Science:
Diagnostic and Therapeutic Services**

LHS/LCISD PRACTICUMS

- **Law Enforcement- LCISD Police Department**
- **Information Technology- LCISD Technology Department**
- **Graphic Design and Interactive Media- LCISD Media Center/ PAW PRINTS**
- **Exercise Science and Wellness- LCISD Athletic Training Department**
- **Automotive and Collision Repair- LCISD Transportation Department**
- **Education and Training- Lyford Elementary School**



EDUCATION AND TRAINING P-TECH



Under the supervision of CTE Education Teacher and Cooperating Teachers at Elementary School:

- 24-25 School year was our first P-TECH year for Education and Training
- We have a partnership with an IHE and our Elementary School
- Assists teacher with lesson planning, co-teaching, reading to students
- Students can earn an Educational Aide certificate



EXERCISE SCIENCE AND WELLNESS



Under supervision of Head Athletic Trainer:

- Provide first aid and assist with High School athletics and Middle School athletics periods
- Utilize modalities therapeutic machines for treatment
- Valley Athletic Trainers Association Regional Champions
- Top 8 in the state Sports medicine relays and top 16 in the Quiz Bowl Section at the state level Texas State Athletic Trainers Association
- Students can earn a Pre-Professional Certification in Nutrition and Wellness



GRAPHIC DESIGN



Under the supervision of CTE Graphic Design Teacher

- Established PAW PRINTS, a student led enterprise where printed products are created by students and sold to the community
- Students in the practicum can practice soft skills such as designing products through web development, communicating with customers, collecting monies, issuing receipts and customer service skills
- Adobe certified professional in Visual Design



LAW ENFORCEMENT



Under the supervision of Police Department Supervisor:

- Work w/Willacy County Sheriffs Office & Willacy County District Attorneys Office
- Mock Traffic Stops, Mock Crime Scene Investigations
- Weekly Door Checks Districtwide, Stop the Bleed Training
- Stop It Training for students , Gun safety campaigns
- Students can earn a Level II Security certification



LYFORD HS

***Student and Staff
Showcase***



LYFORD HS AUTOMOTIVE PATHWAY



- ☐ **Daily Routine**
- ☐ **Lecture & Shop Framework**
- ☐ **Automotive Practicum**
- ☐ **Curriculum Resources**
- ☐ **Challenges & Obstacles**
- ☐ **Preparing for Practicum**
- ☐ **Life Beyond LHS**



A Day in Mr. Vasquez's Automotive Class

Structured Learning Environment

- **Balanced Approach:** Our program combines traditional classroom instruction with hands-on shop experience, ensuring a comprehensive learning journey.
- **Foundational Knowledge:** We emphasize core automotive principles, giving students a strong foundation for advanced topics.
- **Engaging Learning:** Through practical demonstrations, we actively engage students, reinforcing theoretical concepts with real-world applications.



A Balanced Approach in Action



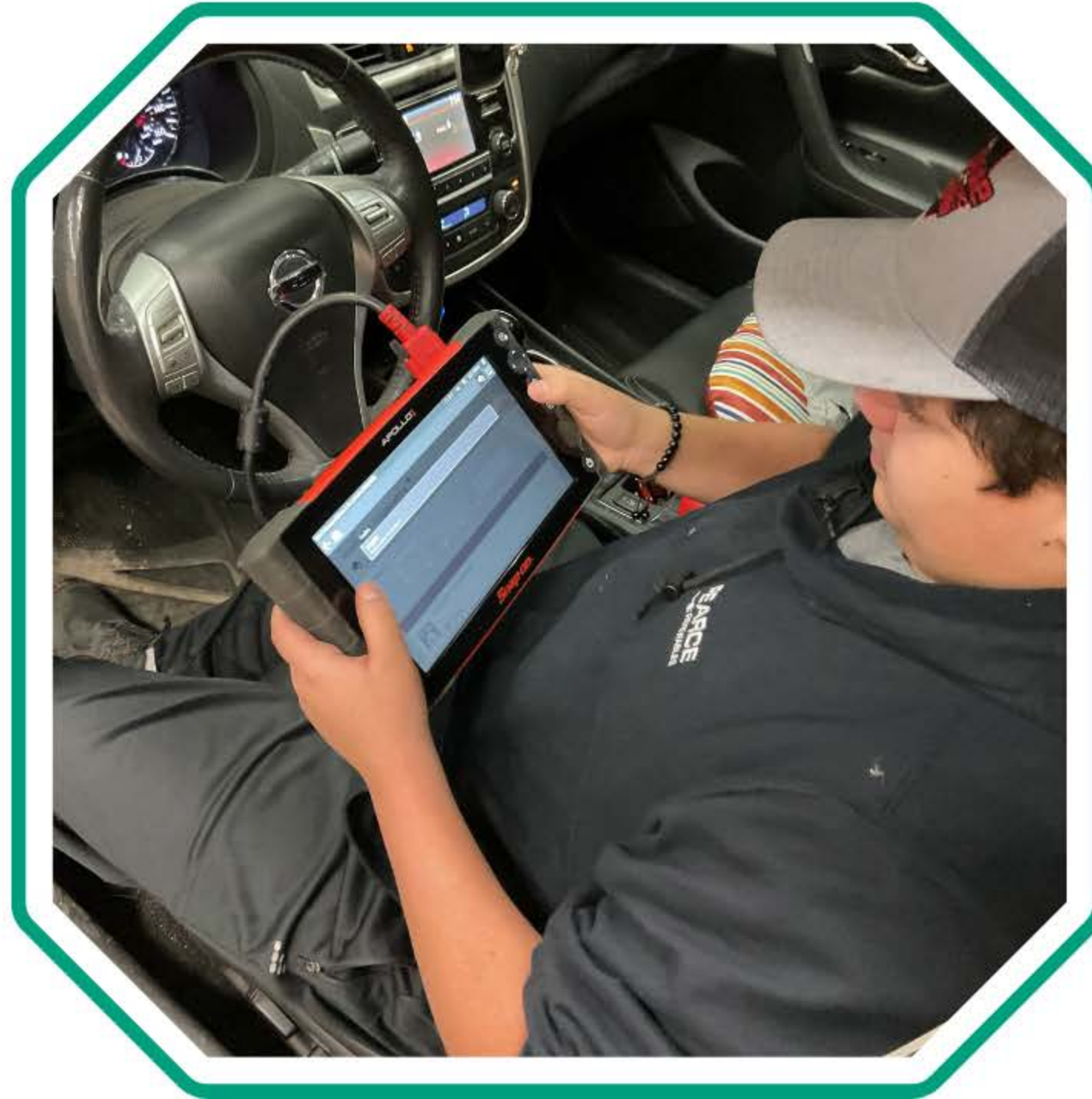
Teaching Methods

- **Lecture Days:** Safety procedures, theoretical lessons, diagnostics, and vehicle systems
- **Shop Days:** Practical training, tool recognition, minor repairs, and collaboration and incorporation of real-world scenarios.



Automotive Practicum

- A realm of work-based learning
- Focus on authentic automotive repair and maintenance
- Students engage in diagnostics, repairs, customer service, and adherence to industry standards
- Immersion in professional environments, internships, and mentorship opportunities



Curriculum Resources

- **Essential Tools and Equipment:** A deep dive into the critical tools and equipment that every educator should incorporate into their curriculum to prepare students for success in the automotive industry.
- **Digital Learning Resources:** Exploring advanced digital platforms and training modules such as ALLDATA and Mitchell1, focusing on how these resources can enhance teaching methods and provide students with real-world problem-solving experiences.
- **Hands-On Learning Opportunities:** Strategies for incorporating practical, hands-on experiences with vehicles—allowing students to engage directly with automotive technology and develop their skills in a controlled environment.
- **Industry Connections:** The importance of inviting esteemed guest speakers and forming alliances with industry professionals, fostering a network that can provide students with insights, mentorship, and potential career opportunities.
- This discussion aims to equip educators with innovative approaches to teaching automotive skills, ensuring students are well-prepared for their future careers.



Challenges & Obstacles for Students

- Motivating students in principles/foundational automotive course is tough due to the theoretical focus.
- To boost engagement, combine practical experiences with theory. Use hands-on tasks, interactive simulations, and group projects to link theory to real-world applications.
- Incorporate multimedia, invite industry speakers, or organize field trips to inspire students and clarify career paths.



Preparing Students for Life After High School

- ASE industry certification exams
- Developing resume writing and job interview techniques
- Collaborating with local shops and dealerships to create job opportunities
- Highlighting the importance of problem-solving, adaptability, and effective professional communication.





THANK YOU!

CONTACT US



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