



WEST HILLS
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT



West Hills Community College District Career Technical Education Newsletter- February 2019

At West Hills, we pride ourselves on changing lives and that happens both through traditional classroom learning and hands-on training. We help today's workers get the training they need to excel in the workplace at no or low cost through our Westside Institute of Technology, Career Technical Education degree and certificate programs and pathways, and through support services like Jobspeaker and our annual Job Fair. However, this is only possible because of partners, especially employers. West Hills is always looking for employers to partner with in our effort to grow the Central Valley's workforce. This month's newsletter highlights the many ways you as an employer or organization can join us in our relentless pursuit of student success.



Agriculture Leaders Support West Hills

A Letter to our Community on the State of Agriculture Leadership

The following opinion piece was developed by prominent agriculture leaders throughout the Central Valley in an effort to highlight the importance of agriculture education and the immediate need for agriculture leadership in the Valley. George Soares of Kahn, Soares and Conway, LLP led efforts to bring together the signatories on this letter.

Dear Community Friends:

Development of the next generation of agricultural leaders is as important to California agriculture as the crops we grow that feed and clothe the nation and world.

Today, like never before, the viability and relevancy of our industry is challenged by many issues including ever expanding regulations and a growing urban population that mostly does not understand what we do and why we do it even though they enjoy what we have done. Understanding our dilemma and seeking out pathways that reverse course is essential before more damage is done.

[Read the rest of the letter](#)



Westside Institute of Technology

Contract Training Brings Skill Based Learning to the Valley Year Round

West Hills Community College District's Westside Institute of Technology is a unique initiative founded in 2007 with a goal of increasing the knowledge and skill-sets required for entry-level employment opportunities or to advance current careers. WIT primarily serves the west side of Fresno and Kings Counties and offers many not-for-credit technical courses including welding, truck driving, residential electrical, forklift certifications and many others. WIT works with Valley employers to help community members learn the skills that directly align with those needed by regional employers and industries. WIT is currently offering residential electric, English as a Second Language, and forklift classes in Coalinga and Mendota. Truck driving courses are ongoing in Lemoore and basic computer classes are slated to begin in Coalinga and Huron later this month.

Interested in learning more about WIT? Click below or contact WIT Director David Castillo at:

davidcastillo2@whccd.edu

559-934-2166

[Learn more about WIT](#)



West Hills College Coalinga Job Fair

Employers and organizations wanted

West Hills College Coalinga will host its annual job fair on Thursday, March 21 from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the West Hills College Coalinga Gymnasium, 300 Cherry Lane, Coalinga, CA. There is still space for employers. Employers and organizations can sign up for FREE at <http://tiny.cc/2019fair>

The fair attracts dozens of potential employees annually. Position your organization or business to meet your future employees or customers! Sign up today!

For more information contact Claudia Call at (559) 934-2153 or (559) 908-0692 or email claudiacall@whccd.edu



West Hills College Lemoore Presents Entree to Employment

Save the Date! On April 11th, West Hills College Lemoore will host its 2nd annual Entrée to Employment.

Entrée to Employment is a networking event for students and local businesses and organizations. This year, the event will focus on helping students working toward careers in Administration of Justice, Corrections, and Cyber Security. The event will also include several students that are interested in the public safety support services, such as dispatch and technician level employment.

During the evening, students and business partners enjoy a served 4 course meal. While enjoying a delicious meal, local employers will have the opportunity to share their industry experience with students seated at their table. A facilitator is present at the table to keep the conversation moving.

We are seeking professionals in the public safety and cyber security fields to dine with our students.

Please click the link to participate: <http://bit.ly/2Bo5kGO>



West Hills College Lemoore Industrial Automation Launch

Are you an employer or organization having trouble finding industrial automation technicians or machinists? West Hills College Lemoore launched a new industrial automation program this spring. Students from the program will soon be looking for internship opportunities and, thanks to a grant from the Central Valley Mother Lode Region, you can get help paying the interns. The grant reimburses companies up to

\$1500 for half of their costs in paying the interns. Find your next great employee!

Contact Kris Costa for more information:

kriscosta@whccd.edu

559-925-3218

[Click to learn more about the WHCL Industrial Automation Program](#)



JobSpeaker

Why wait? Post jobs, internships, and apprenticeships today through West Hills College Coalinga and Lemoore JobSpeaker. Posting is easy. Simply create a Jobspeaker account through West Hills College Lemoore or West Hills College Coalinga and you can post jobs you're hiring for and connect with students. Our students can apply directly through the Jobspeaker app or website and you'll get resumes, cover letters and any additional information directly through the service. Get involved and support work based learning today!

What is Work Based Learning?

Work-based learning is structured learning that integrates work-site experiences with academic learning. Every work-based learning activity has a clear purpose and structure focused on integrating classroom learning and the world of work. There is no one right way to become involved with work-based learning. What is appropriate depends entirely on the employer's interest and availability of time and resources. Many employers begin with an activity that requires a minimum of time and effort and increase their involvement as they recognize the benefits of work-based learning to young people as well as to their own workplace.

Learn more today:

- [West Hills College Coalinga](#)
- [West Hills College Lemoore](#)



Westside Works

Looking to train your employees? Get connected with the West Hills Community College District's Westside Works Apprenticeship Program. The mission of Westside Works is to bring education and industry together to offer a proven workforce solution that also fosters economic and community development.

If your organization is interested in learning how to grow its workforce with apprenticeship, contact Corinna Pereira at 559-934-2168 or submit a contact request at: <https://www.westhillscollge.com/employers/westside-works/>

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