



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Feb. 26, 2025 CONTACT: Maria Hernandez PHONE: (909) 447-2406

El Monte Union Students Explore Career Pathways at “A Day With The Trades” Seminar

EL MONTE – El Monte Union High School District students explored a variety of career opportunities during “A Day With The Trades,” an informational seminar held on Feb. 20, which connected juniors and seniors with industry professionals who shared insights into high-demand careers that offer financial stability and job security without requiring a traditional four-year degree.

Students engaged with industry experts at informational tables during the event at Fernando R. Ledesma High School, collecting materials and learning about apprenticeships, certifications, and specialized training in fields such as construction, electrical work, and automotive technology. By engaging directly with professionals, students were able to explore various career pathways and gain insights into the skills and training required for success.

For South El Monte High School senior Aidan Castillo, the event reinforced his interest in pursuing a trade.

“I’ve always known I wanted to pursue a trade, so I was excited to explore my options today,” Castillo said. “Ironworking and sheet metal work stood out to me, and speaking with industry professionals was incredibly beneficial because it allowed me to connect directly and ask questions firsthand.”

Several organizations participated in the event, including American Career College, West Coast University, Laborers Training School, Los Angeles Trade Tech College (Construction, Maintenance, and Utilities Pathway), and North-West College. Representatives from the Los Angeles/Orange County Building & Construction Trades Council Apprenticeship Readiness Fund, SMART Sheet Metal Workers LU 105, Western States Carpenters Union Career Connections, and Cement Masons Union Apprenticeship also provided students with valuable career insights.

El Monte Union offers a comprehensive career technical education program with 15 pathways, including engineering design, healthcare, culinary arts, public safety, information technology, and more. These programs provide industry-relevant skills, hands-on training, and dual enrollment options, allowing students to earn college credit and graduate prepared for both college and career success.

“At El Monte Union, we strive to ensure our students are aware of all the opportunities available to them after graduation,” Superintendent Dr. Edward Zuniga said. “A Day With The Trades’ provided a valuable space for students to explore career options, ask questions, and consider paths that align with their skills and interests.”

Students are encouraged to connect with their school’s career counselors for more information on trade programs and post-secondary opportunities.

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PHOTO CAPTIONS:

EMUHSD A DAY WITH TRADES 1: Alongside his family, South El Monte High School senior Aidan Castillo explores career opportunities during El Monte Union’s “A Day With The Trades” informational seminar on Feb. 20 at Fernando R. Ledesma High School, where students connected with industry professionals to learn about stable, high-demand careers that don’t require a four-year degree.

EMUHSD A DAY WITH TRADES 2: El Monte Union juniors and seniors connect with industry professionals to explore apprenticeships, certifications, and specialized training during the District’s “A Day With The Trades” informational seminar on Feb. 20.

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The vision of the El Monte Union High School District is to empower and motivate our students to be resilient, college and career ready, lifelong learners and contributing members of our global society.