



## **GOVERNOR UNVEILS CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION INITIATIVE**

*Today, Governor Schwarzenegger continues to put California at the leading edge of a national trend toward expanding Career Technical Education programs. The Governor's proposed 2007-08 budget includes \$52 million to build and improve Career Technical Education (CTE) programs. Formerly known as vocational education, CTE integrates core academics with technical and occupational courses to give students a pathway to postsecondary education and careers. For more information on the Governor's education record visit [www.InvestingInOurSchools.com](http://www.InvestingInOurSchools.com).*

### **Governor Schwarzenegger has renewed California's focus on Career Technical Education programs, putting our state at the leading edge of a national education trend.**

- In his first term, Governor Schwarzenegger reversed years of decreased funding for CTE in California. He increased funds by 18 percent and worked with legislative leaders to include \$500 million for Career Technical Education facilities in the Strategic Growth Plan education bond.

### **The Governor's commitment is helping California's students prepare for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century economy.**

- CTE helps students secure better jobs and higher pay. According to the U.S. Department of Education, students who took high school occupational courses earned 2 percent more pay per each course completed, when measured seven years after graduation.
- Many high-tech industries such as biotechnology, computer manufacturing and health care complain that there is a shortage in the workforce of skilled employees.

### **The Governor's proposed 2007-08 budget will enhance CTE curriculum and streamline teacher recruitment and training.**

- \$20 million in new, ongoing funding for Career Technical Education instruction in high schools and community colleges. This funding will:
  - *Reform high school Career Technical Education coursework through partnerships with community colleges.* Reforms include coordinating Career Technical Education courses so that when students move on to community college they do not need to repeat classes; broadening curricula to include technical programs in emerging and traditional career paths; and expanding courses to ensure more students gain the skills needed for gainful employment.
- \$32 million in new funding for Career Technical Education instruction and programs. This funding, part of the Proposition 98 settlement, will:
  - *Expand student exposure to career options* by building public-private partnerships between key industries and Career Technical Education programs to expand apprenticeships, internships and training.

- *Increase professional development opportunities for educators* by giving teachers and counselors more access to Career Technical Education instruction and career counseling training.
- *Design courses for growth industries* by raising the quality and quantity of classes in high-growth sectors and emerging industries, such as construction and medical technology.
- *Build academic relevance* by increasing the number of Career Technical Education courses that meet “A-G requirements,” classes that prospective UC and CSU students must complete while in high school.
- The Governor will propose legislation this year that streamlines the number of Career Technical Education credentials to 15, reflecting the major industry sectors and simplifying teacher credentialing.
  - Currently there are 175 separate Career Technical Education credentials, an inefficient structure that makes credentialing teachers difficult and fails to reflect industry realities.

**Governor Schwarzenegger’s proposal maximizes bond funds for new facilities.**

- The Strategic Growth Plan education bond includes \$500 million in grants for CTE facilities. The quick, efficient distribution and use of these funds is a top priority for the Governor. He has directed the Office of Public School Construction to expeditiously implement the Career Technical Education portion of the bonds.
- In March 2007 the Governor will host a Career Technical Education summit to give school districts hands-on help in applying for bond funds. In addition, the summit will bring government and industry together to review existing Career Technical Education curricula, outline industry needs over the next decade, identify how curricula can meet these needs and evaluate how schools can best prepare students for the workforce.

**The Governor's Record On CTE**

- Increased ongoing funding for Career Technical Education by \$90 million—or 18 percent—since taking office.
- Included \$20 million in the 2005-06 budget to expand and improve Career Technical Education courses at high schools, regional occupational centers and California Community Colleges.
- Included an additional \$40 million 2006-07 budget for Career Technical Education equipment and improvements and \$20 million in funding grants.