

one district,
one goal:

100% graduation,
college and career ready

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Union...at a glance

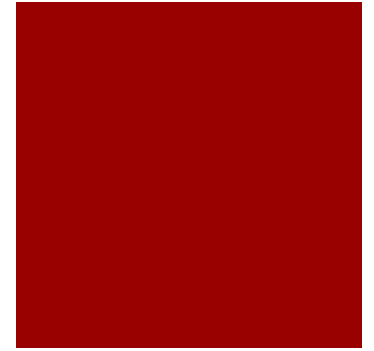
- ~16,000 students, 1,900 employees
- 13 Elementary schools (PK-5th)
- 6/7th Grade Center (2,400 students)
- 8th Grade Center (1,200 students)
- 9th Grade Center (1,200 students)
- High School (3,500 students)
- Alternative High School (200 students)
- Early Childhood Center for 300 income-eligible 3 year olds (funded by Community Action Project)
- Adult and Community Education Program serving over 3,000 adults in NE Oklahoma through GED, TANF, and ELL programming



District Demographics

- Ethnicity:
 - Hispanic: 33%
 - Caucasian: 32%
 - African American: 14%
 - Native American: 8%
 - Multiracial: 8%
 - Asian: 5%
- Number of languages spoken by students: 62
- Free/Reduced Lunch: 70%
- Four-year Cohort Graduation Rate: 90%
(not including GED or 5th year graduates)
- Four-time winner of 6A Championship for Oklahoma's Promise





District Strategic Plan

MISSION:

100% Graduation, College and Career Ready

- Early Childhood
- Community Schools
- STEM
- College and Career Readiness

Challenges to overcome



- Students had major social/emotional/economic struggles that impacted their ability to be fully present at school
- Changing demographics; increasing number of students who lack generational knowledge for navigating higher ed process (ACT, FAFSA, scholarships, essays, internships, etc.)
- Diminishing resources for true college and career counseling in secondary schools
- Lack of expectation for higher learning for ALL students by ALL stakeholders
- Increasing college costs (transportation, books, fees, and tuition)
- Once enrolled, students lacked strategies and supports for college success

EXCELerate



- In September of 2010, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education approved EXCELerate for pilot implementation in Union and TPS.
- Without EXCELerate, juniors must have at least a 3.5 grade point average (GPA) and seniors must have a 3.0 GPA along with an eligible ACT “subject area” test score to enroll.
- EXCELerate enables students with a 2.5 or higher and a score of 19 on the ACT “subject area” test score to enroll in concurrent courses.
- TCC had a similar program, Attend College Early (ACE) for many years; ACE program covers tuition up to six credit hours, but it does not pay for \$100 in fees or cost of books/calculators. In addition, students had to enroll on their own, coordinate the schedule with HS courses/activities, and provide their own transportation to class.

College readiness: EXCELerate



STUDENT:

- \$12.75 fee for 3 hour course currently; tuition for 2017/18 TBD

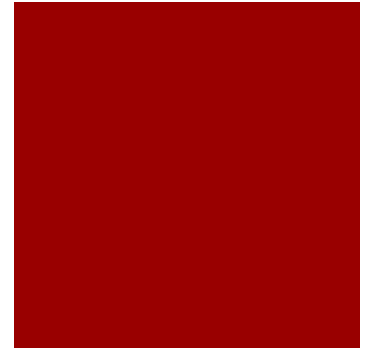
DISTRICT:

- Bond funds purchase books/calculators for students to use during semester.
- Classes are held on site to eliminate transportation barrier.
- College-style classrooms were built in new UCA to provide collegiate experience.
- Elimination of cafeteria and creation of eight unique restaurants and a cyber café creates “Student Union” vibe.
- Soft-seating area, collaborative spaces, and wifi mimic the collegiate environment.

TCC:

- Provides instructors for concurrent courses
- Co-administers the EXCELerate program

TCC courses offered (M-Tu-Th)



- Freshman Comp I
- Freshman Comp II
- College Algebra
- College Algebra Online (2nd Semester)
- American Federal Government
- Speech
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Foods and Nutrition
- 20th Century World History

Credits Earned, Money Saved

EXCELeRATE

Each class equates to 3 hours of college credit.

- 2010-11: 1,248 hours
- 2011-12: 1,695 hours
- 2012-13: 1,881 hours
- 2013-14: 1,779 hours
- 2014-15: 2,121 hours
- 2015-16: 2,241 hours
- TOTAL: 10,515 hours

COST to students: \$44,689

State University

Average cost per credit hour at OU or OSU

- \$300 (tuition, fees, & books)
- \$300 (room & board)

COST to students \$6,309,000

SAVINGS to Union families: \$6, 264,311

Increasing College Readiness



Execution on the mission starts with a commitment by the adults in the district that every child deserves to be “coached up” for college/career

- Grade level principals and counselors “loop” with students across several grade levels to ensure relationship building and accountability
- Secondary Academic Counselors (one per grade level) are available year-round to assist students and parents
- College and Career Counselors begin preparing students for post-secondary in middle school
- EXCELerate Pilot program encourages success by eliminating barriers to concurrent courses via TCC; TCC professors keep level of rigor equal to courses taught on TCC campuses
- Course “pathways” ensure an articulated curriculum in a contextual environment
- Collegiate atmosphere and “gradual release of responsibility” build skills for success after high school

Union Career Connect



- Launched in 2014-15 at Union High School
- Designed to expose students to high demand career opportunities during the school day through specific coursework and “on the job” learning opportunities
- Utilizes a “learn and earn” philosophy; some companies offer paid internships during the second semester and full time employment (with benefits and tuition reimbursement) upon graduation)
- Students earned over 183 nationally-recognized certifications, such as WorkKeys (reading/math/locating information), Manufacturing, Total Quality, Safety, Maintenance, OSHA 30, CPR, Child Development Associate, Fire Safety and many Ford/Fleet certifications

Union Career Connect



High school students attend classes in industry-based settings and earn nationally-recognized certifications prior to graduation.

INDUSTRY	COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS
Manufacturing	APSCO, Bama Companies, Ebsco Spring, McElroy, TCC
Automotive Technology	City of Tulsa, Union's Transportation Department
Culinary	Union's Child Nutrition Department
IT Information Technology	Union Public Schools Technology Department
K-12	NSU-BA, Union Public Schools, CAP Early Childhood Center
Sports Medicine	Eastern Oklahoma Orthopedic Clinic (EOOC)
Law Enforcement	Broken Arrow Police Department
Entrepreneurship & Marketing	Tulsa Drillers & Tulsa Roughnecks
Construction	Mill Creek Lumber, FlintCo, Association of Builders and Contractors

Technician program expands job offerings for Union graduates

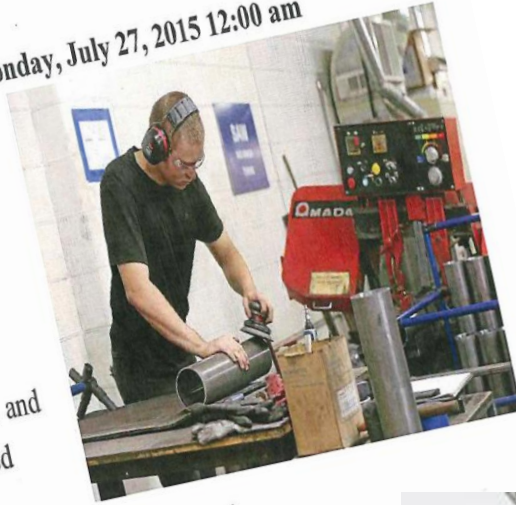
By NOUR HABIB World Staff Writer | Posted: Monday, July 27, 2015 12:00 am

The certified production technician program launched last year through Union Public Schools' Career Connect initiative has already led to full-time jobs for three 2015 Union graduates.

The graduates, who interned during their senior year of high school at local companies APSCO and The Bama Cos. Inc., were offered and accepted jobs at the two companies this summer.

Associate Superintendent Kathy Dodd said the district is happy to see its students transitioning into these careers as a result of what they learned and experienced through the program.

Union Career Connect was launched last year as a way for the district to meet the career-readiness component of its districtwide strategic plan. In addition to the manufacturing track, which includes the technician certification program and pairs students with industry partners, some students enrolled in an auto mechanic program with the city of Tulsa.



Union Tech

Micah Hertzog prepares a seal for use on a pneumatic system at a facility in Tulsa on Thursday. He is a Union High School graduate who interned at APSCO after completing the program at Union's Career Connect center in BARNARD/Tulsa Woods.



Union Career Connect



