



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Contact: Shannon Carr  
(408) 723-4229

## SVCTE Automotive Services Program Driving Student Success With Industry Leaders

**San Jose, CA:** This year, [Silicon Valley Career Technical Education](#) (SVCTE) celebrated partnerships with more than 125 entities, from businesses, community colleges, and non-profit organizations in Silicon Valley. The support of industry partners is a critical component of career technical education, which offers our students discipline, relevance, and real-world content so they can easily transition into a career or continue their post-secondary education.

For the [Automotive Services program](#), these partnerships are in many ways behind the wheel driving student success.

In just two months, students in automotive teacher Tom Nemeth's classes have kicked off a new partnership with participation in the [New Ford Tech ACE \(Automotive Career Exploration\)](#) program and some have even earned certificates from the [Toyota TEC \(Technician Education College Support\)](#) program.



*MetroED Superintendent Alyssa Lynch; Capitol Ford Service Manager Francisco Ramirez; Capitol Ford Service Director Eldin Pasic; Juan Maldonado, Ford regional technical talent placement specialist; Automotive Services teacher Tom Nemeth; and Kiran Grewal, MetroED Director of Educational Services (adults, left to right) honor students John Ngo, Trent Avvenire, Nolan Johnson, and Elaina Hernandez.*

The Ford partnership started off with an event on November 16, which allows students access to Ford factory training via a learning management system. It provides the same web training Ford technicians take in order to become certified in their 12 specialties, from electrical systems to steering and suspension, brakes, and more.

In addition, since a sponsoring dealer is required, this partnership adds a local Ford dealership as a resource that can lead to job shadowing or internship opportunities, part-

time jobs and full-time employment for students and graduates. A three-way partnership has been formed with Ford Motor Company, DGDG Capitol Ford, and SVCTE's Automotive Services class. Nemeth

stated: "We are excited to have created this outstanding partnership to benefit our students and ensure their success."

"Getting in front of students as early as possible is very important," said Juan Maldonado, Ford regional technical talent placement specialist, who visited students during the kick-off celebration (pictured above, fourth from right).

Angel Martinez from Mount Pleasant High School in East Side Union School District shared his enthusiasm for the program.

"I have been given a very good opportunity that not everyone can achieve doing the training," Martinez said. "The Ford training program has given me confidence in my future in the automotive industry."



*MetroED Superintendent Alyssa Lynch; Eddie Vazquez, a Toyota Motor Sales representative (first and second from left); and SVCTE Automotive Services teacher Tom Nemeth (far right) honor students Dillon Lemmon, Nick Lemus, James Chavez, Logan Chiapparelli, and Carlos Reza (third to seventh from right).*

On December 5, five of Nemeth's advanced students were honored for successfully passing eight Toyota e-Learning courses and were awarded the Toyota Technician Education College Support (TECS) Maintenance Training certificate. SVCTE signed up with the Toyota TECS program in 2020, now open to high school students.

"These are the same e-learning courses a Toyota technician would complete at a dealership," said

Eddie Vazquez, a Toyota Motor Sales representative who attended the event. "They get a maintenance certification so they are now officially recognized by Toyota as being technicians."

Nick Lemus from Santa Clara High School in Santa Clara Unified School District was among the five advanced students to complete the Toyota TECS training.

By doing so, he believes "I will have an edge over the other people that are competing for the same job. I feel more confident going into my future."

Both Maldonado and Vazquez echoed that the need for technicians continues to rise, and it's growing exponentially.

"The industry for a long time has been needing technicians. So it's really great to see Tom sparking this interest at a younger age," Vazquez said.

Maldonado shared that 797,530 auto/diesel/collision technicians will be needed between 2021 and 2025.

Nemeth shared his excitement partnering with automotive original equipment manufacturers (OEM) industry leaders such as Ford and Toyota. He added we have also been fortunate for several years to have the availability of Subaru of America e-learning and loaner vehicles.

“All our OEM partners provide world-class training through e-learning courses and exposure to their vehicles,” Nemeth said. “The students benefit by having the certificates for a job interview or just visualizing success and accomplishment. They realize we are all working together for their future success wherever that leads them.”

**About Metropolitan Education District:** *MetroED is a regional provider of Career Technical Education (CTE) and Adult Education. We are the largest career-oriented education organization in Northern California for high school and adult students. Annually, MetroED provides 2,000 diverse students with the skills to help them be productive, income-earning, and tax-paying contributors to Silicon Valley. Register for a free campus tour or get more information at [www.metroed.net](http://www.metroed.net)*

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