

CHARLOTTE TECHNICAL SCHOOL NEWS

FALL 2024

KALEIDOSCOPE



LETTER FROM OUR DIRECTOR



Students and Families,

I am delighted to welcome you back to another exciting school year at Charlotte Technical College. As we embark on this new journey together, I want to extend a warm and heartfelt welcome to all of our returning students and families, as well as our new members of the CTC family.

This year, we are thrilled to introduce our new school mascot, the Sailfish. A symbol of speed, agility, and grace, the sailfish embodies the spirit of our school community. Our mascot will inspire us to strive for excellence in all we do, academically and socially.

As we move forward, let us embrace our school motto: Safe and respectful, Always professional, Intellectual, Leaders. These values will guide us as we create a positive and supportive learning environment for all.

I am confident that together, we will achieve great things this year. Let us work together to make Charlotte Technical College a place where every student feels valued, respected, and empowered to reach their full potential.

Once again, welcome back!

Sincerely,
Cindy Gulsky, Director of CTC
Thank you,
Cindy Gulsky

“STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE...”

COE Resources - Council on Occupational Education Phone: 800-917-2081 Florida Department of Education Phone 850-245-0505
Veterans' Information Charlotte Technical College's full time programs are approved for education and training by the Veteran's State Approval
Veterans and Dependents of Disabled or Deceased Veterans who plan to attend full-time programs at Charlotte Technical College should contact Student
Service located in Building A.

The School Board of Charlotte County does not discriminate (including anti-Semitism [as defined in Bylaw 0100]) on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation, transgender status, or gender identity), recognized disability, pregnancy, marital status, age (except as authorized by law), religion, military status, ancestry, or genetic information which are classes protected by State and/or Federal law (collectively, "protected classes") in its programs and activities, including employment. The School Board also ensures equal access for Boy Scouts of America and other identified patriotic youth groups, as required by 34 C.F.R. §108 (Boy Scouts Act). (School Board Policy 1122, 3122, 4122)

The District Title IX Coordinators and Equity Compliance Officers for the District are Adrienne McElroy (Director of Human Resources), available at (941) 255-0808 Ext 3090, Patrick Keegan (Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Employee Relations), available at (941) 255-0808 Ext 3122, and Michael Desjardins (Assistant Superintendent for School Support), available at (941) 255-0808 Ext 3073. The District Section 504 Compliance Officer and ADA Coordinator is Rebecca Marazon (Coordinator of Psychological Services), available at (941) 255-0808 Ext 3071. (School Board Policy 2260)

For more information, please see <https://www.yourcharlotteschools.net/Page/24093>

FRONT DESK



Welcome back! As the summer winds down and we transition from flip flops and tank tops to pumpkins and program shirts, the front office support staff is busy as ever helping students navigate the first few weeks of school. As always, knowledge is power and information is key – a few reminders are in order to ensure a (smooth school year).

- **ATTENDANCE:** If you are a HIGH SCHOOL student, please remember to have a parent call if you will be absent. Additionally, if you are an EARLY RELEASE from class, a parent/guardian MUST physically come into the building and sign you out! Doctor notes should be turned in to the FRONT DESK.
- **BADGES:** \$2 for a new lanyard and \$5 for a new ID badge this year – please don't lose your ID badge!
- **MEETING REQUESTS:** Have a question? There are slips for Mrs. Welton, Ms. Thame and Ms. Stout at the front desk for you to fill out for appointments. Ms. Knight makes all FINANCIAL AID appointments.
- **BUS PASSES:** If you need a bus pass – don't wait until the last minute! Let Ms. Tanny at the front desk know as soon as you need one, and she will have it ready for you to pick up by the end of class. Remember, bus passes are only issued for routing issues, school-related activities and parent approved emergencies.
- **FOOD:** Please remember, HIGH SCHOOL students are not allowed to leave for lunch – you must remain on campus. Additionally, NO FOOD DELIVERIES! If you order DOOR DASH, UBER EATS, or GRUB HUB, please know that the staff will be enjoying your lunch!

And remember, we are here for YOU - If you need anything, or have a question, come see one of us at the front desk and we will be happy to help!

-Tanny Davidson
Front Desk

AUTOMOTIVE



As teachers, we plan lessons that match state and governing body standards for our students. In automotive, we might be teaching about hydraulics or disc brakes during the brake course and we scaffold the lessons to build from basics to more complex learning to ease the students into it. A unique circumstance for the automotive department is outside work may not always match what we are currently teaching and adjustments need to be made on the fly without losing sight of the core lesson and possible new lessons a job might offer. From the emergency tire patch for a student or faculty member to a last minute “My car overheats.” or “The belt just fell off.” and let’s not forget, “Remember the job we only thought would take 10 minutes?” a well-organized week can turn into a whole new series of learning opportunities completely unrelated to what we are teaching. The opportunity to build reasoning, physical, and diagnostic skills is still present, but there is a big difference between a brake shoe and a water pump. Then comes the effort to get back on track in a timely fashion.

Expect the unexpected, adapt, and overcome. This isn’t reading, writing, and arithmetic. Well...It is...But with a random twist. The new year is off to a great start and the shop is humming with work. Both lesson related and some surprises. It’s good to be back.

-Tom Viele
Automotive Instructor & Program Planner

“THE BEST LAID PLANS...”

CAREER CENTER



Welcome to the Career Center at Charlotte Technical College (Room 312)

At Charlotte Technical College's Career Center, we are committed to helping students and graduates prepare for and succeed in their careers. Whether you are starting your job search or just want to enhance your professional skills, we offer a wide range of services designed to support your success.

Our Career Center provides resume writing assistance, where you can receive expert guidance on creating a polished, professional resume that highlights your skills and experience. We offer personalized feedback and tips to ensure your resume stands out to potential employers.

In addition, we offer access to Successful Finds, a professional attire closet, which allows you to select business attire at no cost. Dressing the part is crucial for job interviews, and we're here to help you look and feel confident.

Be sure to register for our job board, College Central Network, where you'll find exclusive job postings from local businesses seeking talented individuals like you. This platform includes a resume builder and connects you directly with employers, making your job search easier and more targeted.

Throughout the year, we will be holding events such as mock interviews and career fairs so that you can connect with area employers face to face!

Take the next step toward a successful career by making an appointment to visit the Charlotte Technical College Career Center today! We look forward to helping you achieve your professional dreams!

Email stephanie.rusch@yourcharlotteschools.net to make an appointment!

-Stephanie Rusch

Career Specialist/Community Liason

“COMMITTED TO HELPING STUDENTS...”



CULINARY

The Culinary Arts and Baking and Pastry program is back in the swing of things after a long summer break! Joined together in the kitchen chaos of both new and eager students clumped in with our returning senior students; you may hear the students pounding chicken and or the fryer angrily sizzling as Chef Osborne calls back for more fries during our busy lunch service. Joining us this year is our new instructor (sometimes hard to miss with his sporty yellow chef coat) Chef David Deegan. Chef Deegan was previously employed at The Sunseeker Resort and now brings forth many exciting lessons for our new culinarians; so far he has gone over culinary math, knife cuts, and how to make homemade mozzarella cheese, which his students used for the salad bar. As a class, we also have been anxiously waiting for the return of our Thursday night Family Nights. The first buffet was set for Sept. 12 and will be every Thursday until Thanksgiving Break. Please join us with your families for a delicious and decadent dinner. Did I forget to mention there will be desserts? And it's all you can eat for \$15.00! A price you truly can't beat for some of the best food in Charlotte County. Food from our talented students; like Taylor Agueros who won 3rd place at the SkillsUSA Nationals Conference for the High School Culinary Arts division.

-Madison Mucha

Instructor

“EXCITING LESSONS...”



HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR

Mrs. Welton, our secondary career specialist, taught middle school career technical education (CTE) before joining the CTC staff in 2023. She is excited to be part of the CTC team because she believes that CTE at CTC is the best way for Charlotte County students to make hands-on learning part of their high school experience.

CTC's diverse range of programs lets students explore their passions while gaining valuable, practical skills. By engaging in real-world projects and collaborating with industry professionals at CTC, students develop a strong sense of confidence and competence that sets them apart from other high school graduates. Our grads are not just prepared for the workforce, they graduate equipped to thrive as working adults.

One standout benefit of CTC is its focus on bridging the gap between education and employment. Many CTC programs incorporate internships, apprenticeships, and job shadowing opportunities, allowing students to gain firsthand experience and make professional connections. This enhances their resumes and instills a deep understanding of workplace dynamics, helping them transition smoothly from high school to a rewarding career.

The spirit of innovation and creativity at CTC encourages students to think critically and solve real-world problems. In an ever-evolving job landscape, this is not just relevant – it is essential. By embracing technology and the latest industry trends, CTC grads are poised to become the next generation of leaders and innovators in our community.



Caption: Mrs. Welton is pictured with some of her former students from Punta Gorda Middle who are now enrolled as high school students at CTC: (left to right) Caden Moore, Automotive Maintenance & Light Repair 1; Ryan Herr, Enterprise Desktop; Isaiah Summers, IT; Jaycion Thomas, Professional Culinary; Naleya Dabney, Nursing Assistant; Eleanor Birchenough, Criminal Justice Operations; Vincent Frey, Enterprise Desktop; Nathan Richardson, Automotive Maintenance & Light Repair 1; Cara DePriest, Digital Design 2; Connor Kelly, Real World; Rindi Welton, secondary career specialist; Vaida Naegeli, Digital Design 2; Charles Miller, Enterprise Desktop.



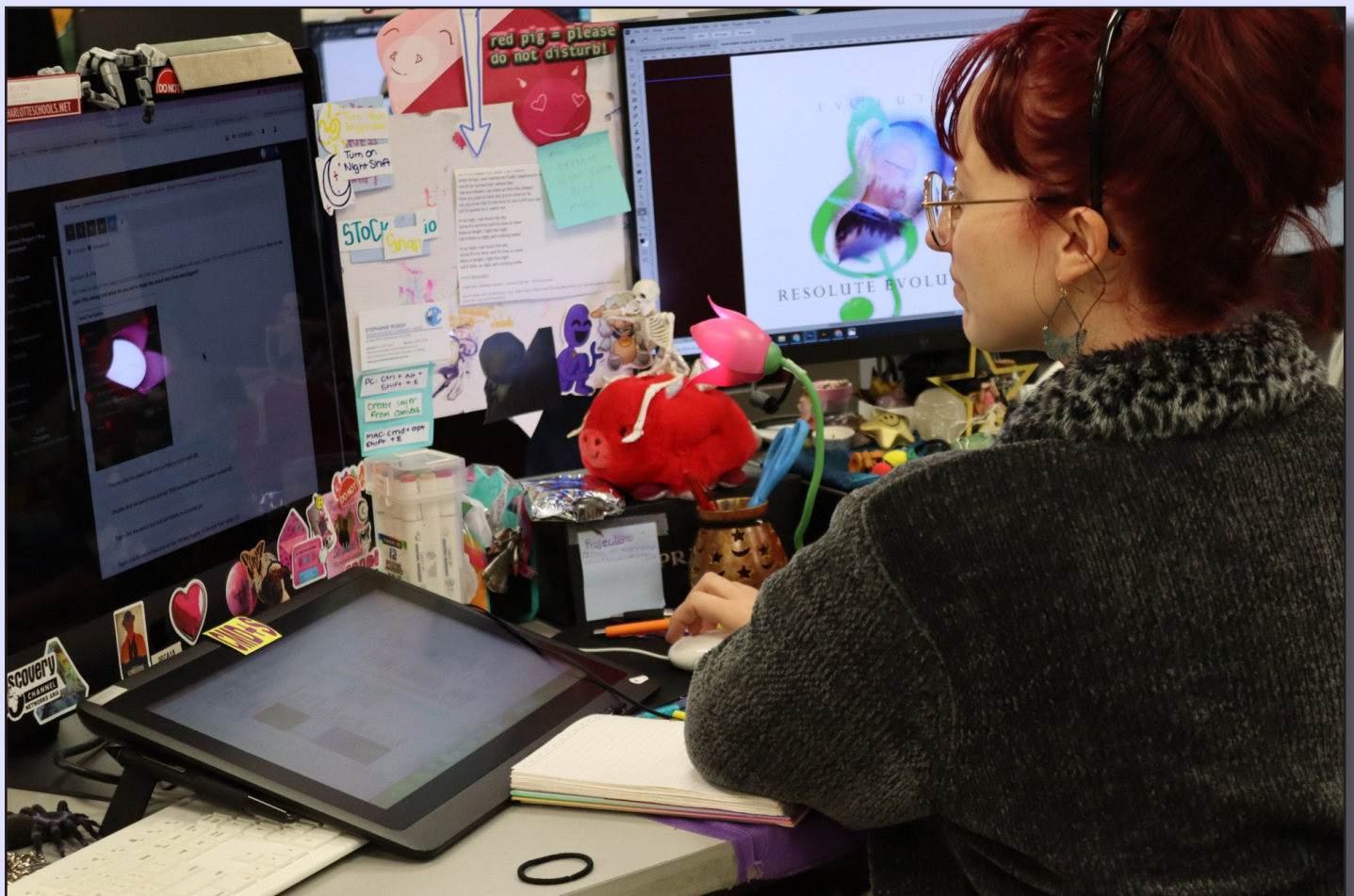
DIGITAL DESIGN

Creative minds are hard at work in Digital Design! We learn technical skills in software like Adobe Photoshop, After Effects, Dreamweaver, and more, as well as learning how to navigate advertising for and running your own businesses with the help of courses taught by certified Google professionals. Learn the fundamentals of filming and photography, color theory, and how to use the hardware necessary for design. Our instructor Mrs. Ostrow is always prepared to help the design team and inspire them with her skills in business and design. In our classroom, you can build your design portfolio and develop your art style as you complete fun projects with help from our welcoming, talented designers, and even receive opportunities from real companies who enjoy your work! Earn professional certifications through CertiPort and explore internship opportunities where you can actively use your learned skills and build your resume.

Not only do we learn how to use hardware and software and improve our design skills, We also learn how to navigate businesses and our future jobs, track our goals and improve your ability to stick with them, and learn how to communicate with our peers. Practice public speaking as we gather around and discuss mental and social skills with our peers, and learn from other students who have already harnessed these skills to further your improvement.

- Judy Wilke

Digital Design II



I.T.

Returning from summer means time to boot up the IT department! We want to welcome back our returning students that were greatly missed over summer and welcome in our new IT recruits. We hope you had a wonderful, restful summer and now it is time to hit the ground running.

Students came in and on day one began to set up the various work stations and showing their cable management skills. As the school year continued to develop, so did the opportunity for students to showcase their prior learning and dive head first into breaking down and building up computers, networks, and taking part in scenarios such as Security Team table top exercises. All of these activities assist the students in their ultimate goal which is to obtain industry certifications.

We celebrate those who have completed this step and congratulate them on their accomplishments. Additionally, we encourage and support our students working diligently to reach their goals. Obtaining any of the IT certifications is not an easy feat, however continuing to push through your struggles, reach out for guidance, and continuing to apply yourself will lead you to success.

Looking ahead, the year will bring greater understanding of the inner workings of Information Technology. Students will build confidence in their coursework as well as their hands on skill abilities. Students will also develop their ultimate goal of what career path they want to pursue upon graduation. Regardless if graduation is happening this year or in the future, the IT staff here at CTC is here to support you every step of the way.

-Megan Hornstein
Instructor

Skills USA

Another year at CTC means another wonderful opportunity to become a member of SkillsUSA! This student-led organization helps to guide our students in their career goals. Students gain an opportunity to work alongside peers and professionals in their chosen career path. SkillsUSA provides invaluable professional development for all student members and staff advisors.

SkillsUSA also brings a unique and challenging experience for their members which is the Regional, State, and National competitions. Already, we have students expressing a desire to enter competitions that will begin in February from the Baking, Culinary, Digital Design, and IT departments. Students that take on the challenge and win will then go on to State Competitions in April in Jacksonville. All of this wraps up at Nationals located in Atlanta, Georgia. Last year, Seth Alan and Xander Rosado-Sessa brought home Bronze Medals in Cyber Security and Taylor Agueros brought home a Bronze Medal in Culinary. These students took on the challenge and made our school so very proud! Time to continue this legacy and take on Nationals again.

Currently, there are Staff Advisors from each career offering here at CTC which is a wonderful start however, now our Chapter needs you! As a student-led organization we need students to take on leadership roles such as President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, and Parliamentarian.

Events for SkillsUSA are about to begin with our kick off Spirit Week and Membership Rally on October 7th. Additional events include Field Day, Car Auctions, Bake Sales, and much more.

If you would like to know more about SkillsUSA, please ask your teacher who the Advisor for your course is or visit Mrs. Hornstein in room 316.

-Megan Hornstein
Instructor

CRIMINAL JUSTICE



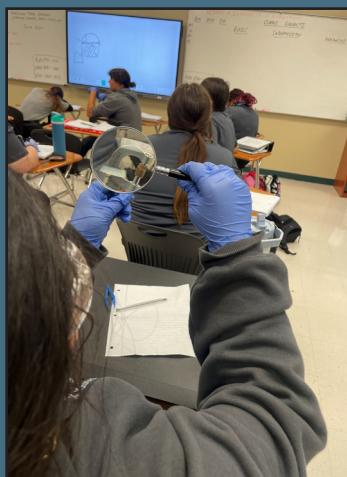
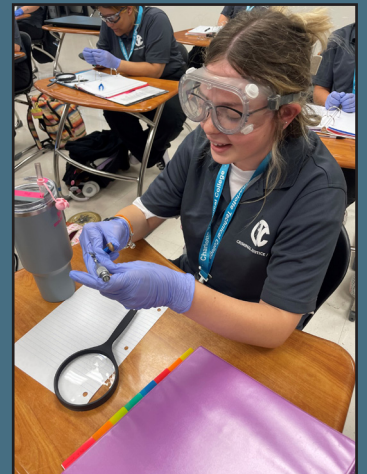
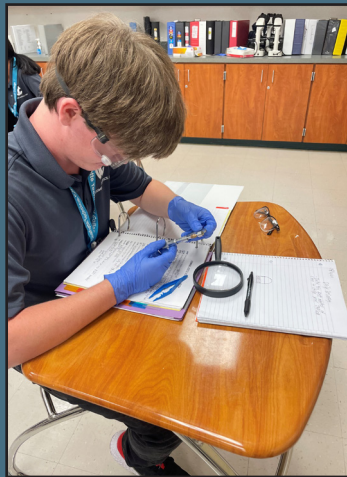
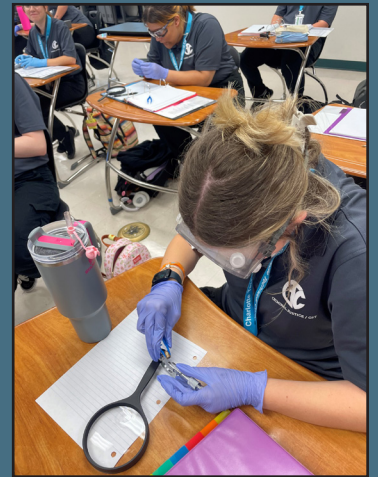
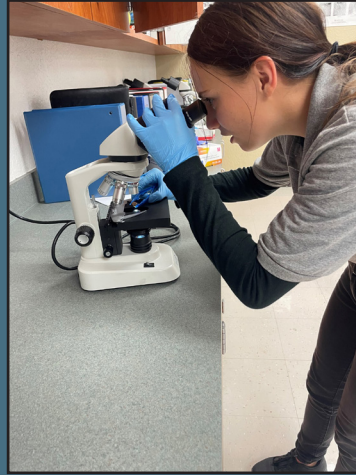
We have started the 2024/2025 school year in the Criminal Justice Program with the study of Jails, Prisons, their history, and employment opportunities.

We will have a past student come talk to the classes who is currently working in corrections.

The Crime Scene Tech (CST) started the new year studying firearms and bullet evidence recovery with the study of striations and learning how to use micrometers.

The Criminal Justice Programs are looking forward to the study of gangs and narcotics this semester while the CST Program wants to skip to blood pattern analysis.

Dep. Travis Sabadin (Ret.)
Criminal Justice/Crime Scene
Tech Instructor



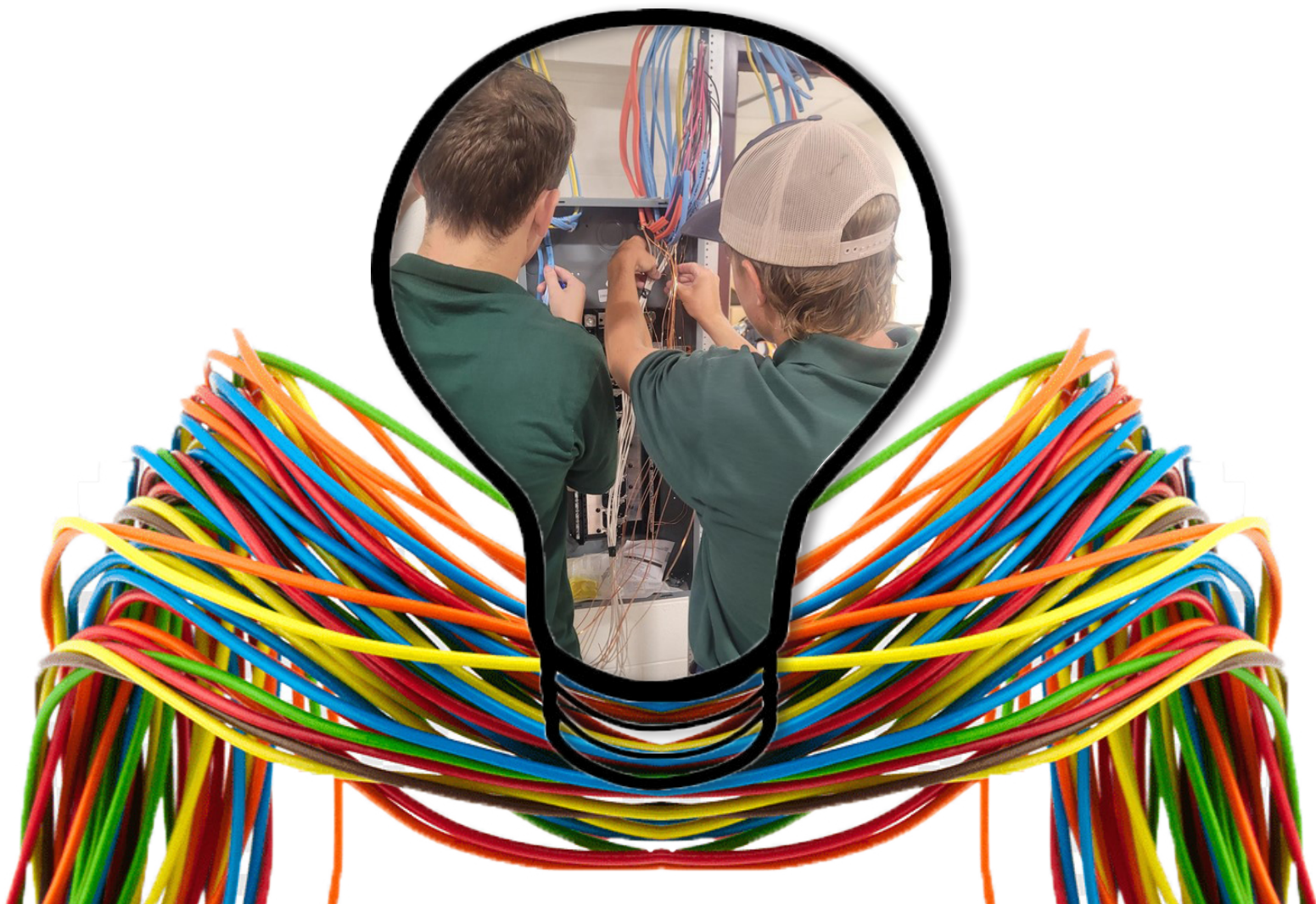
ELECTRICITY

The Electricity Program at CTC is a new program that introduces students to the electrical trade in the construction industry and beyond. We offer a platform for learning that builds from the beginning of construction safety, electrical safety, and understanding basic hand tools and equipment to grow into the knowledge of working with wires, controls, motors, and everything in between. The training equipment we provide can go as deep as understanding resistance and voltage drop to as simple as wiring a switch and lamp. We offer an amazing opportunity to start a career in the electrical field and explore all the options and career paths you can take with these certifications. The certifications available when you complete the 1200 clock hour program are: NCCER Core Certification and Electrical One Certification. This program is the perfect springboard to an electrical apprenticeship and a deeper dive into the career path in the electrical trade. The students currently enrolled in the Electricity program are excited about obtaining the knowledge that most people don't have the opportunity to learn in a lifetime. Our hope is that you will consider doing some research to see if a career in the electrical industry is a path you would like to take. If so, come check us out! We would love to see you "shine bright" with the other students.

-Theresa Waller

Program Planner/Instructor

“INDUSTRY AND BEYOND...”



Charlotte County Public Schools Charlotte Technical College does not tolerate Bullying in any form. Bullying can be characterized by actions that are: intentional, unprovoked, reoccurring, and exhibit a Difference in Power (physical or psychological). Bullying may appear in a variety of forms including: physical, verbal, psychological/relational, and cyber. Any instances of bullying, if confirmed, the students engaging in acts of bullying will be held to consequences outlined in the Student Code of Conduct, with any subsequent acts holding harsher consequences. Charlotte Technicaal College expects all students to adhere to this policy and immediately report any possible bullying to school officials. Students can report via online reporting tool found at www.yourcharlotteschools.net



CAREER IN A YEAR

FLORIDA'S PUBLIC TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM



QUICKLY AND EASILY SUBMIT A TIP

By accessing FortifyFL, students can provide a description of the threat, share pics and videos and optionally submit their contact information.

Anonymous or Non-Anonymous

You decide whether you want to include your name and contact information.

Convenient

Submitting a tip is quick and easy using our mobile app or website.

Include Photos and Video

You can also include photos or video with your tip report.

QUICKLY SEND TO AUTHORITIES

FortifyFL automatically routes your tip report to the appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.



Your School Officials

The tip report goes to your local school officials when submitted.

Local Law Enforcement

Your local police department or sheriff office receive copies of your tips automatically.

State-Level Officials

State-level officials also have access to your tips to make sure proper steps are taken.

FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials. FortifyFL was created and funded by the 2018 Florida Legislature as part of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act.

#FORTIFYFL
GETFORTIFYFL.COM



REPORTING SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES OR THREATS

Students, parents, CCPS employees, and members of the community have a responsibility to report suspicious activities and potential threats to schools. Any suspicious activity or threat shall be promptly reported to one of the following individuals, agencies or reporting tools:

- School Resource Officer or local law enforcement agencies.
- School Administrator or any available staff member.
- The FortifyFL Reporting APP** or to the Crimestoppers Tipline (1-800-780-TIPS).
- Contacting the Supervisor of District Security and Emergency Management at (941) 255-0808
- Calling 9-1-1.