

# APPRENTICESHIP

## Apprenticeship Fair at Livermore High School – Going Strong for 5 Years

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In the fall of 2015, the college and career advisors at Livermore High School, Caryl Shill and Paula-Ann Cabading, recognized that students were largely unaware of apprenticeship as a post-high school option.

Students knew about college and the military but there was a gap of knowledge when it came to the trades. We wanted students to know that going into the trades is an excellent career option that can provide a good living.

That school year, we hosted our first Apprenticeship Fair with nine apprenticeship organizations and approximately 200 students

participating. Fast forward to 2020 and the Apprenticeship Fair has become a yearly event at Livermore High School. We held our 5th Annual Livermore High School apprenticeship Fair on February 5th, 14 apprenticeship organizations attended and over 350 students participated.

Linda Knox, apprenticeship consultant with DAS, spoke with students before each session to explain what apprenticeship is and how it gives them another pathway to a career, instead of attending a college right out of high school. “I believe this event educates teachers, counselors, parents and students on the benefits of apprenticeship.”



Three Livermore High students learn about the cement mason apprenticeship program.

Each year, 10-15 local apprenticeship organizations attend to share opportunities available in the trades. Teachers of classes like construction technology, electronics, machine tool, engineering, and auto technology/body bring their students to the fair. Students hear an overview of apprenticeships and have the opportunity to speak directly with representatives about their programs in a traditional career fair format.

Some vendors bring interactive demos to engage students. Randy Barnard, Auto Body Repair teacher, stated, "My students really liked the paint simulator brought in by District Council 16 commercial painters. All the students that tried the simulator did really well and it was a competition to see who could do better. I got a stack of cards and already gave out two of them to students possibly interested in an apprenticeship."

Randal Miller of Operating Engineers Local 3 JATC has attended the fair at Livermore High every year since its inception. "It's great to partner with an organization to assist us in attracting and training the brightest talent available for our industry needs," Randall said.