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Carl Wunsche Sr. High School and A&M Consolidated High School Receive the Excellence in Action Award for Innovative CTE Programs

April 5, 2018 – Today, the Veterinary Science Program at Carl Wunsche Sr. High School and the Information Technology program of study at A&M Consolidated High School received the prestigious Excellence in Action award from Advance CTE. This award honors innovative and effective Career Technical Education (CTE) programs across the nation. Both programs of study exemplify excellence in providing relevant work-based learning opportunities through sustained partnerships with education, community and industry leaders; integrate rigorous academics; meet college and career readiness standards; and have demonstrated substantial evidence of student success and achievement.

The Veterinary Science Program received the award in the *Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Career Cluster*[®] and the Information Technology program received the award in the *Information Technology Career Cluster*[®]. They are dedicated and passionate about creating seamless transitions to both college and careers. In fact, Wunsche Sr. High School offers 30 dual credit courses and 17 Advanced Placement courses resulting in supported pathways to postsecondary education. Learners in A&M Consolidated High School's Information Technology program can earn up to 15 college credits through dual enrollment courses offered through a partnership with Blinn College.

"I am honored to receive the Excellence in Action Award for the Veterinary Science Program at Carl Wunsche Sr. High School. The students, school/district personnel, and business partners have worked tirelessly to make the Veterinary Science Program one that produces students who are educated, informed, prepared, and equipped with the knowledge and skills to further their education in postsecondary education or begin their career in the field of Veterinary Medicine and/or Agriculture," said Jessica Graham, Veterinary Science Teacher.

"Technology is ubiquitous, and the mere existence of the Information Technology career cluster helps to shape growing minds to harness critical thinking skills in the 21st century. Information Technology is evolving and will become a core skill that is needed in all trades. It's not about what Information Technology can do, but what we do with Information Technology," said Bart Taylor, Information Technology Teacher.

The success of both programs is clear. Last year, 92 percent of the Veterinary Science graduating class enrolled in postsecondary education and each student earned an industry-recognized credential. Since 2000, the IT program has helped over 130 students earn their A+ certifications, over 25 students

earn their Network+ certifications and two students have earned their Security+ certifications. Last year, all of the IT graduates earned an industry-recognized credential.

"The programs of study that we are honoring today all share a steadfast commitment to the highest expectations for CTE," said Kimberly Green, Executive Director of Advance CTE. "This dedication to quality and excellence leads to strong learner outcomes, creating opportunities for a lifetime of career and education success. Today's honorees serve as national models of what high-quality CTE looks like and can achieve."

Representatives accepted the honor at an award luncheon as part of the Advance CTE Spring Meeting in Washington, D.C. Learn more about both award-winning programs of study and the Excellence in Action award [here](#).

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About Advance CTE

Advance CTE: State Leaders Connecting Learning to Work is the longest-standing national non-profit that represents State Directors and state leaders responsible for secondary, postsecondary and adult Career Technical Education (CTE) across all 50 states and U.S. territories. Established in 1920, Advance CTE supports visionary state leadership, cultivates best practices and speaks with a collective voice on national policy to promote academic and technical excellence that ensures a career-ready workforce.