

**2014  
AWARD  
WINNER**

## EXCELLENCE IN ACTION

# Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security

**CAREER CLUSTER**

## Jack E. Singley Academy School of Law and Public Service

The Singley Academy defines success as **providing a flexible and rigorous curriculum** with **broad-based partnerships**, developing professional and interpersonal skills necessary for success in the Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security Career Cluster®.

The school strives to allow students to **explore, practice and apply skills** and knowledge in a variety of public service occupations. Its curricula and counseling are designed with the complementary goals of **giving students hands-on learning** and **stimulating a passion for service** by offering firsthand experiences in a diverse array of pathways in the Career Cluster.

*"The program has been very impactful for the Irving Police Department. It has enabled us to tap into a **recruiting pipeline** that was previously unknown. [Student interns have] given new inspiration to our employees who have taken special interest in teaching and coaching the students, they've been able to **teach the value of public service** to students who might not have considered what it means to give back to your community."*

*- Jeff Spivey, Irving Police Department Assistant Chief of Police*

As might be expected from the Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security Career Cluster, The Singley Academy stresses **preparedness**. It is the Singley Academy's vision to "increase student achievement through engaging partnerships between the school, parents, and the community." Their dedication to that ethic earned them an Excellence in Action Award.

### Fast Facts

|                                          |         |
|------------------------------------------|---------|
| Students served (2013)*                  | 200     |
| Male : Female                            | 52 : 48 |
| Low-income students                      | 86%     |
| Earned an industry-recognized credential | 194     |
| Graduation rate                          | 97.7%   |
| Enrolled in postsecondary                | 77%     |
| Entered workforce/military               | 23%     |
| *Expanded to 400 in 2014-15              |         |

### Partnerships

|                            |
|----------------------------|
| City of Irving Police      |
| Dallas County Court System |
| Irving Municipal Court     |
| Brookhaven College         |
| North Lake College         |
| Baylor Hospital            |
| Irving Fire Department     |
| Skills USA                 |



Learn more on the Singley Academy: <http://irvingisd.net/>

Learn more on CTE: <http://careertech.org>



*The Singley Academy pulls in students from throughout Irving ISD, giving them real world experience and teaching the value of public service*

## The School of Law and Public Service

The Singley Academy has long offered dual credit agreements with local community colleges. Each specialization offered through SLPS offers the chance to earn a professional certification on top of a high school diploma. Its programs of study (POS) already focused on offering excellent counseling services, work-based learning opportunities and comprehensive career pathways for students before 2013.

Anticipating a large jump in enrollment, the Singley Academy decided to revitalize the longstanding, high-quality Legal Services POS, expanding it into the new School of Law and Public Service. They convened an advisory committee including leaders from the Dallas County District Attorney's office, the Irving Police Department, the Irving Fire Department, U.S. Air Marshalls and the CTE community to broaden the school's overall scope and expand the set of credentials offered.

The resulting School of Law and Public Service allows students to earn dual credit in Criminal Justice under the instruction of actual police officers from Irving PD, continue working after graduation with the possibility of tuition reimbursement for college courses and earn industry recognized certifications. It also establishes an "honor court" for law students to serve the Irving ISD; creates on-site legal and citizenship clinics for community members; expands the EMT program to include a Firefighter Academy that offers dual credit with the EMT program, offers Candidate Physical Abilities Test preparation and prepares students for FEMA Community Emergency Response Team certification; utilizes the college/career readiness matrix in all courses 9-12; provides mock intake simulations to improve communication and writing skills; and implement the new Homeland Security and Digital Forensics POS which includes leadership and citizenship component through the JROTC program.

The Singley Academy's relentless focus on critical factors like comprehensive, career-oriented pathways; ongoing student guidance; career-building opportunities like internships, mentors and job shadowing; and the chance to earn industry recognized credentials certificates and postsecondary credit during students' secondary POS commended it for a 2014 Excellence in Action Award.

## Core Academics via CTE

Students are immersed in the practical side of their Career Cluster through the Singley Academy's collaboration with the City of Irving Police's Jail Internship Program. The **Jail Internship** program allows SLPS students to work Irving City Police to get hands-on work in the Irving City Jail. Students work 25 hours/week in supportive roles without contact with inmates, learning the operations of a correctional facility. From this nationally-recognized internship program, SLPS has developed a deeper partnership with City of Irving by bringing in Irving police officers as adjunct instructors for dual credit courses. Similarly, collaboration with Irving Municipal Court allows students interested in law to get into the courtroom, witnessing firsthand the product of their pathway.



*Working to Learn: students at the Jack Singley Academy are afforded extensive work-based learning opportunities*

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