

The 2019 East High School Career Day was held on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The event was a tremendous success on many fronts. First, after surveying the student body to identify the speakers/presenters they wanted to see, we were able to schedule nearly 99% of students into their #1 choice speaker. The 16 students that were not able to see their #1 speaker saw their #2 speaker and either their #3 or #4 speaker. To me, this is one of the greatest successes because we were able to expose our students to careers of interest for them specifically and, in the process, furthering their understanding of the steps required to successfully secure a career in their respective fields. Second, we were able to showcase the tremendous things that the student body at East High School do on a daily basis, with art work displayed and the string quartet performing at the luncheon that was prepared and served by our FCS students. We also had a student presenter speak to our volunteer Career Day speakers about the importance of his job shadowing experiences. This led to the last success I would like to highlight, our job shadowing database. We were able to add another 14 professionals that indicated they were willing to provide job shadowing experiences for our students. This information was shared with Donna Foley, our Career Education Counselor, who can then reach out to those willing participants in future years to continue to develop a link between school and the community/workforce. In a world where the community is indicating that our students need more exposure, to develop more soft skills, and to be better prepared to perform when they enter the workforce, this program was able to attack that problem from a number of different fronts which will hopefully lead to even better results for our students in the future.