## Pasadena USD College & Career Pathways Initiative (Linked Learning)

Tagline: It's your decision...your journey

Pasadena's program is quite well-developed. It is a "school within a school" that integrates core academics with a technical curriculum for students who participate. The program emphasizes that it does not graduate students so specialized that they are limited when they graduate. The program has the following four goals for students:

- 1. Strong academic foundation with transferable skills
- 2. Technical core of knowledge and experience in the highest performing and most rapidly growing industries in California
- 3. Preparation for both college and career by developing greater self-knowledge and ability to achieve career goals
- 4. Experience in work-based learning

The program has a number of business partners who offer job-shadowing, internships, and mentoring to students. Some business partners also send employees into classrooms to make presentations related to a particular area of applied study.

There are currently eight "pathways" for students to choose. Students who join a particular pathway participate in the program from  $9^{th} - 12^{th}$  grade. The pathways are as follows:

- 1. App Academy: Mobile Applications and Computer Science.
- 2. Arts, Entertainment and Media: music, drama, film and video production, photography, painting sculpting and other fine arts
- 3. Business and Entrepreneurship: leadership, problem solving, organizational and management skills
- 4. Creative Arts, Media and Design: visual arts and design, graphic communications
- 5. Engineering & Environmental Science: using science and mathematics to improve quality of life
- 6. Health Careers: health, medicine, and bioscience
- 7. Law & Public Service: legal, government, and protective service industries
- 8. Culinary Arts & Hospitality: culinary arts and hospitality management

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