## E-BUSINESS CONNECTION



## Catalyst Convener Champion

October 2023

## A word from our CEO



James Cooper
President/CEO
Pleasanton
Chamber of Commerce
james@pleasanton.org

## **Workforce Development and CTE**

In August, I wrote about a new partnership between the Chamber and the Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD) that connects local businesses to students participating in PUSD's Career and Technical Education (CTE) program. This is part of a broader effort to stimulate local workforce development efforts, by getting individual businesses involved with local students to provide mentoring and counseling about their future careers.

In September, we sent out a <u>short survey</u>, that is still active, to gauge business interest in supporting this program. There are different opportunities to participate listed in the survey, from visiting students in class to internships and everything in between. Today, I want to highlight two other ways to get involved in workforce development with your local school district.

PUSD has two programs for those with disabilities: WorkAbility, which serves students enrolled in high school and transition classes; and Adults with Disabilities. These programs, which provide funding for wages and insurance, serve as a crucial link for people who are capable and interested in working. They connect your organization to an under-tapped workforce that is ready and eager to get started.

When a business needs to find workers, there is an opportunity to think differently about the process that can lead to long term recruiting stability. PUSD's CTE program and the programs serving disabled students are just two of the many examples available. Please <a href="mailto:email