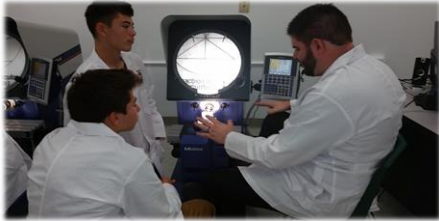


focus on enrollment in post-secondary programs. Working with our workforce partners the career/readiness program involves students in internships, mentoring programs, community services and employability skills trainings. These will provide additional context and opportunity for students resulting in character development, greater respect for oneself and others, and a commitment to succeed.



CREO Partners

- Santa Cruz County School Superintendent
- Santa Cruz Valley Unified School District #35
- Rio Rico High School
- Nogales Unified School District #1
- Nogales High School
- Santa Cruz County Provisional College District
- MetroMatemáticas America, LLC
- Zigma Consulting

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Alfredo I. Velásquez
Santa Cruz County
School Superintendent



*"Education must not simply teach work
- it must teach life."*

W.E.B. Du Bois

www.co.santa-cruz.az.us

CREO Project

College & Career
Readiness &
Educational
Opportunities



CREO Project

College & Career Readiness and Educational Opportunities

Funded by the US Department of Labor's Youth CareerConnect Program as part of the Pima County **Innovation Frontier Arizona Grant**.

Through **CREO**, our students will

- **Possess a STEM Career Identity**
Science, Technology, Engineering, Math
- **Be Academically Prepared**
 - *Students study math through a methodology that breaks away from the traditional way of teaching math by providing the student with a laboratory-like environment and hands on activities.*
- **Be A Leader**
 - *Resilient and prepared to persevere.*
 - *Students will possess life skills and have strength of character to overcome challenges.*
- **Have and Follow a College & Career Plan**
 - *Students will want to attend college/post-secondary training programs. As part of the College & Career Readiness Curriculum, they will apply, be accepted and be financially prepared for post-secondary programs.*

Our **CREO** partners include two exemplary programs:

1. **MetroMatemáticas Learning Lab**
2. **Lean Six Sigma Practicum**



The Future of Santa Cruz County necessitates our youth and young adults be skilled in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Having a skilled labor force that is prepared for careers in the Fresh Produce, Transportation and Logistics, Commerce, Healthcare, and Maquiladora industries will determine our economic potential and define our standard of living and quality of life.

A countywide coalition of schools, post-secondary institutions, public agencies and the private sector have partnered to address this concern. Their research resulted in the coalition proposing the establishment of the Santa Cruz County Applied STEM Learning



Center. Further, their preliminary recommendation was to adopt the innovative program **MetroMatemáticas Learning Lab Program** as the Center's core curriculum.

MetroMatemáticas represents a new model of teaching mathematics. In addition, it is designed to facilitate the development of technological skills, scientific instrumentation and reasoning skills for students beginning as early as sixth grade.

MetroMatemáticas was launched in July 2009 by Nahum Correa as an initiative to address the low math achievement in the state of Sonora Mexico. The curriculum utilizes an applied practice curriculum that employs current technology used in the STEM fields.

Currently, two **MetroMatemáticas** labs are established in Santa Cruz County. Rio Rico High School and Nogales High School are offering the Basic Lab as an elective and part of the Honors Program.

A Lean Six Sigma Yellow Belt Practicum and Certification by Zigma Consulting will complete the two-year course. Students will work in teams to apply the skills acquired, and present a problem-solving project.

College/Career Readiness Program

A student's focus on their post-secondary plans and goals should start early on in high school. Our program will provide the students with college/career awareness and readiness activities that will lead to a