

*"knowledge isn't power,
applied knowledge is power"*



FALL 2024-2025
VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1

www.TustinEngineering.com

**A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER CELEBRATING TUSTIN HIGH SCHOOL'S
TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING PROGRAM**

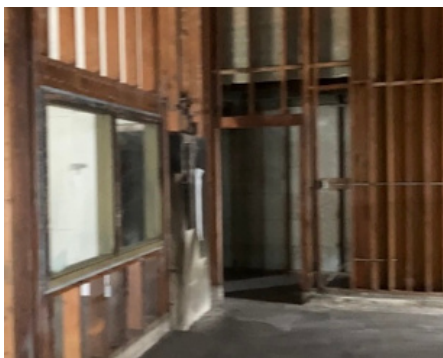
Summer Internships

Eleven years ago T-Tech sent its first students to Boeing's Summer Engineering program. This past summer, with the help of TUSD's Career Pathway Internship program (CPI), T-Tech had a record **FOURTEEN** students participate in a technical summer internship! This is a unique experience where students learn life skills than can't be taught in the classroom. As students prepare for college and beyond, a summer internship is often the one thing that can help a student stand out from the pack. Now in its fourth full year, CPI is a TUSD program dedicated to finding our CTE students the experience of a lifetime. Juniors, keep an eye out for the application window, opening in late February/March. A big shout out goes to Ms. Alita Salazar, its Program Coordinator, and Dr. Grant Litfin, TUSD Assistant Superintendent.



Shop Update

As we all know, sometimes the wheels of progress in Education turn very slowly. Yes, there has been progress made with the repair of our T-Tech shop which was destroyed by a fire last November. However, we're now waiting for the red tape and paperwork to make its way through the system before the real work begins. In the meantime, we are setting up a temporary shop! For the next few months, we'll be using a converted portable as a temporary work space. It is not as big as our old shop, but it is just for us, and it even has a small outdoor yard where we can do some of our "dirty work". New tools and machines are already being delivered! A big thank you goes out to our Vice Principal Mr. Tom Giebe and John Parra from TUSD M&O.



Old shop, cleaned, gutted and almost ready to rebuild



Temporary shop space in a converted portable classroom.



Outdoor yard for dirty work and extra fabrication space

New Year, New Teams, New Cars

Last year, in spite of the loss of our shop, T-Tech still managed to bring three cars to the annual EV Challenge competition held at Saddleback College. We managed a 4th place finish, but there was just not enough time to properly test our vehicles. One car broke the day before the event, and another after only a few laps. This year, expectations are high and we've already begun preliminary testing and planning! We have an eager group of students and hope to have at least three cars enter this year's competition. More updates to follow later in the year.



Early EV Testing

Alumni Spotlight

This quarter, we highlight Charlene Shong, T-Tech class of 2014. Charlene was part of the original group of T-Tech Boeing Interns, and quite possibly its most successful and influential member. A "Top Intern", she was brought back *twice* as Team Lead to help run the program. Before heading off to college, she was also the first T-Tech student to become certified in SolidWorks, something still on her resume to this day. Charlene graduated from UC Berkeley in 2018 with a BS in Mechanical Engineering. Today, she is a Technical Program Manager for Covariant, an AI Robotics company headquartered in the SF Bay Area.



Her CV boasts experience in industrial automation, safety & robotics, and systems integration of robotic work cells. Wow! Charlene, we are proud to call you a T-Tech alumna. Go Tillers!

2024/2025 T-Tech Parent Booster Board

President - Garrett Kerr
Vice Pres. - Veronica Jacklin
Treasurer - Matt Policare
Secretary - Jaynika Barot

Upcoming Events

T-Tech Parent Booster Meeting
Wednesday, 10/9 at 6:00 pm in
room 5206

Questions? Contact Mr. Hernandez directly at ehernandez@tustin.k12.ca.us